NEW SERIES No. 20.

SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS

OF THE OFFICE OF THE

FINANCIAL COMMISSIONER, PUNJAB.

Published by Authority.

No. 46.

CONTENTS

Lahore:
THE "CIVIL AND MILITARY GAZETTE" PRESS,
Contractors to the Punjab Government.

1896.

15560

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No. LXXIV.—District Schemes of Suspensions and Remissions, Part I.

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PREFACE.

The notes on suspensions and remissions included in this volume have been drawn up in pursuance of the instructions contained in paragraphs 8 and 9 of Financial Commissioner's Circular No. 1 of 1890 (Annexure C of Revenue Circular No. 31), a copy of which will be found on page 1. The notes relate to only thirteen out of the thirty-one districts in the Province. Some time must elapse before the whole series is complete. Meanwhile it has been thought desirable to publish these notes, both in order that they may be available for reference in a convenient form, and also that they may serve as a model to the officers entrusted with the preparation of similar notes for the remaining districts.

CONTENTS.

Extract of paragraphs 8 and 9 of Financial Commissioner's Circular No. 1 of 1890 (Annexure C of Revenue Circular No. 31).

* * * * *

8. The officers mentioned in the second clause, paragraph 4 above, when forwarding the maps described therein, will submit at the same time through the Commissioner to the Financial Commissioner a carefully considered scheme for the working of suspensions occasioned by drought, periodical floods and similar causes. In the case of Settlement Officers care should be taken that these proposals are submitted in sufficient time to admit of orders being passed on them before the conclusion of the settlement. It is not intended that such arrangements should be considered in the light of an agreement between Government and the people, or as an integral part of the settlement, but rather as a guide in the future revenue administration of the district. It is never possible to guarantee in any tract during any particular season of distress the presence of an officer previously acquainted with its special conditions in such seasons, and the scheme of suspensions prepared under those orders should be on record to assist officers who may have been recently posted to the areas under consideration in their revenue administration at such times.

Scheme for the working of suspensions to be submitted.

9. Efforts have already been made in some parts of the Province, as, for instance, in the Marwat tahsíl of the Bannu district, to supply local officers with some rough guide of this description indicating that in certain tracts failure of rain for a certain number of seasons should be held a just ground for suspensions, and failure of rain for a certain larger number of seasons be held a just ground for remissions.

Instructions regarding the preparation of schemes regarding suspensions.

In the reports now to be submitted something of the same kind, but, if possible, more definite and minute, is required, and the question of remissions must be put altogether on one side. In paragraphs 16-18 of the Circular of Government of India referred to above, proposals were made for the adoption of a scale of suspensions under which, when the proportion of crops that had failed in a particular area in any harvest was known, it should also be known what proportion of the revenue ought to be suspended. These proposals must be taken as indicating rather the object to be kept in view than the method by which that object can be reached in the Punjab.

No automatic adjustment of suspensions to the degree of failure of crops could be made to work here. But at the same time it seems possible, and is certainly desirable for the guidance of officers in those parts of the Province where suspensions are most frequently required, to draw up a general or exemplar scale of suspensions suitable to the known conditions of each tract. Such a scale must be founded upon a consideration of the past revenue history and the present revenue circumstances of the special tract to which it is to apply. In submitting their reports, therefore, the officers entrusted with this work should furnish, as forming the grounds for their proposals, a brief note on these subjects.

* * * * *

Note by A. Anderson, Esquire, Settlement Collector, on the Suspensions in the Hissar District, dated 12th March 1891.

Orders as to suspensions in this district.

IT will be convenient to collect here the orders of Government in regard to suspensions in this district. On the Bhiwáni Assessment Report Sir James Lyall laid down the following principles for tracts where cash rents prevail :—

"The true sphere for suspensions is in tracts where peasant proprietors cultivate their own land or take rent in kind from tenants on the small scale. Where a large proportion of the land is held by tenants-at-will, who regularly pay cash rents, the necessity for suspensions will be comparatively small; and to give suspensions when they are not required is an injury rather than a benefit to these Rájpút villages. On the other hand, it is obvious that a man who has little or no crop of his own and whose rents are in arrear is in a position which calls for suspension of some part at any rate of the Government demand. As a general doctrine suspensions of revenue will have to follow upon the creation of arrears of rent."

In the orders on the Assessment Report of the other tahsíls he further laid down that while in the Náli villages there would be the necessity for frequent and ready suspensions of revenue, still such suspensions should not be too freely given, as the people in these villages could generally draw on their reserve resources in cattle.

In deciding that the cycle system of assessment was not necessary in this district, the Lieutenant-Governor accepted as sound the reasons advanced by the Settlement Officer against its introduction, and recorded that the weightiest of these objections to the cycle system was equally weighty against the free use of the system of suspensions, and that the honest and sturdy class of Punjab peasant proprietor generally shows a strong dislike of suspensions unless combined with the hope of ultimate remission. The reasons referred to by the Lieutenant-Governor are given in full on page 24 of the orders on the Assessment Report of Hánsi, etc.

2. While there thus are special reasons against too free suspensions of revenue in this district, still Hissár is eminently a district to which the instructions given in para. 12 of Revenue Circular 31, directing that local officers "should observe with vigilance the working of the assessments of the unirrigated lands in all seasons of scarcity of rainfall" apply. In the assessment reports, numerous examples have been given of the precarious nature of husbandry and the uncertainty of the harvests (see page 50, Hánsi Assessment Report), and I now proceed to show how the Collector may, as a rule, ensure that the circumstances of any village which may be in difficulties will be made known to him, with a view to his deciding whether suspension of revenue is called for or not.

Classification into secure and insecure areas.

3. After excluding the area under fluctuating assessment where *ex-hypothesi* there is no necessity for suspension, the rest of the district has to be divided into "secure" and "insecure." Secure tracts have been defined as "tracts very unlikely to require suspensions or remissions on account of drought, floods, or the like." Excluding for the present the villages irrigated from the Western Jumna Canal, the whole of the Hissár district, subject to a fixed assessment, must undoubtedly be shown as insecure. It is unnecessary to repeat here the reasons for classifying this district as insecure; they are to be found on almost every page of the Assessment Reports. The area irrigated from wells is very small and so uncertain that no special revenue rate for cháhi has been imposed; and for our present purpose well irrigation may be quite neglected. There is more doubt about the canal villages. The Government of India suggested that all estates, of which 50 per cent. or more of the cultivated area is secured by irrigation, should be classed as "secure." The Local Government has held that it is not safe to follow such a rule in this province. There are now 59 villages partially irrigated by the Western Jumna Canal—41 in the Hánsi and 18 in the Hissár tahsíl. Of the 18 villages in Hissár, only one has so much as a third of its cultivated area irrigated. But even if any village had reached the 50 per cent., I would have classed it as insecure. The villages at the end of the canal are not even in

average years certain of a full supply of water, and in bad years when the river is low and the demand abnormally great, it is not unlikely that the irrigated area may be so small as to be practically a neglectable quantity. Of the 41 villages in Hánsi, 11 have less than a third irrigated, 10 over a third and less than a half, and 20 have a half or more irrigated. In calculating the dry assessment, it has been presumed that only about half the cultivated area is cropped, and, as this area is practically secure in these 20 villages, they may be safely classed as secure. Even if the canal failed for a year, the revenue in these villages could and would be paid. There is more doubt about the 10 villages which have less than half irrigated. I believe that suspension will never be required in them; but they are mostly at a distance from the canal, and if there were two bad years in succession suspension might be necessary. In a district with so uncertain a rainfall as Hissár, and lying at the end of the canal, it is safe to put doubtful cases into the insecure category. On the whole then I would show only 20 villages (see margin) in the whole district as secure. Their cultivated area is 62,052 acres, and of this 39,895 acres are ordinarily irrigated. The total revenue is Rs. 29,060.

Village.	*Revenue.* Rs.	*Village.*	*Revenue.* Rs.
1. Kheri Barkesh	400	11. Bhaini	1,900
2. Bhalla	2,000	12. Budhána	1,300
3. Hánsi	6,200	13. Aurangshahpur	600
4. Jamaori	750	14. Narnaund	2,600
5. Kheri Gangan	880	15. Majra	1,000
6. Pali	1,250	16. Moth Rangarán	1,150
7. Jamni Khera	200	17. Madha	550
8. Kanda Khera	2,300	18. Rájpura	680
9. Rajthal	1,150	19. Sisai Bola	1,500
10. Malakpur...	550	20. Sisai Kali Rawán	2,100

The village to be the unit of enquiry.

4. There is a tendency to look at assessment circles as wholes, but in considering the necessity for suspension in this district each village must be treated separately, and conclusions derived from the circle statistics cannot be safely affirmed of any individual village. The rainfall, like hail-storms and for the same reasons, often confines itself to small areas so that neighbouring villages fare very differently. For this as well as other reasons the estate must be considered as the unit, and information must be given for villages without regard to the circumstances of the circle.

Suspensions should not follow failure of one crop alone.

5. This district is mainly dependent on its kharíf crop; excluding the tracts irrigated by the canal and the Ghaggar, at least three-fourths of the cultivated area is sown with summer crops, and every village can pay the whole revenue if it has a fair kharíf harvest. I attach a statement showing by assessment circles the instalments in which the revenue is paid, and this proves how necessary is a complete knowledge of the kharíf crop in an enquiry having for its object the suspension of revenue. In the Government of India scheme for suspensions, it was suggested that the necessity for and the amount of suspension should depend on the crop which precedes the date of the instalment. This crop is no doubt the most important element, but in this district it is not the only element for consideration. Under no circumstances should a suspension be allowed merely on the failure or partial failure even of the kharíf crop. This subject was considered in my letter objecting to the introduction of the cycle system. The people are not accustomed to suspensions, they are afraid of accumulating a burden of arrears which thrift, labor, and average seasons may not lift off their shoulders. When bad years come they are willing, in accordance with past custom, to pay the revenue by the wages of labor, the hire of camels and carts, and by savings, and largely by the sale of cattle. Suspensions will be necessary only when, in consequence of a succession of bad crops, their fodder has run short and their cattle have been sold or have died, and when they have become too disheartened to make any effort. The revenue paid up to 1890 was light, and could often be paid by the sale of the *pála* leaves when the crop failed. With the enhanced demand the time for granting suspensions will come sooner, and it is necessary that the local officers should watch its approach and be ready to act when it arrives.

Villages paying the whole revenue in kharíf.

6. The average area cropped in a year is roughly about 66 per cent. of the cultivated area; and except in villages irrigated by the canal and the Ghaggar, the area cropped in the rabi is so small that for our present purpose we may regard the kharíf as the only crop.

It may then be taken as approximately correct that the revenue is assessed on the understanding that only two-thirds of the cultivated area is cropped, and as the demand announced is under half net assets, I think it is safe to say that if on an average of years even half the cultivated area bears a crop, the revenue can be paid. In any one year, if even one-fourth of the cultivated area is cropped, and the village was not formerly in difficulties, the revenue will be paid. To secure however that no village is excluded from consideration where consideration is required, I suggest that for all báráni villages a statement be prepared on completion of the kharíf girdáwari, showing all villages which have cropped less than one-third of their cultivated area either in the present or in the past kharíf harvests. This statement should be in the Collector's hand not later than 15th November (the kharíf revenue is due on 15th December). It might be in the form given below :—

1. Village and revenue.
2. Total cultivated area.
3. Area cropped in present kharíf.
4. Do. past rabi.
5. Do. past kharíf.
6. Remarks.

Wherever the total area for the three crops was less than 66 per cent. of the cultivated area, the Tahsíldár should submit a further special report the principal subjects of which are noted in para. 11. My belief is that if 66 per cent. or more of the cultivated area is cropped in two years, the village will, as a very general rule, be quite able to pay its revenue. To illustrate my meaning I give some examples : total cultivation being taken as 100.

1	2	3	4	5
Village.	Total cultivated area.	Area cropped in Kharíf 1890.	Area cropped in Rabi 1890.	Area cropped in Kharíf 1889.
A	100	29	4	37
B	100	30	1	25
C	100	20	3	40
D	100	56	4	15
E	100	40	3	20

A, B, C are entered because they cropped less than one-third in 1889; this part of the statement can be prepared from the previous year's statement at any time. D and E are entered because they cropped less than one-third in 1890 ; these entries cannot be made until November 1890. No report would be required about B and D unless there happened to be special reasons for thinking suspensions necessary, but the Tahsíldár should report as to A, C, and E, even though he was not able to recommend suspension.

Villages with two instalments.

Kharíf instalment.

7. What has been written in paras. 5 and 6 is applicable as a whole only to the báráni villages, of which the whole revenue is due in December, and which depend mainly on the kharíf. The orders passed on the kharíf crop would dispose of these cases for the year. But there are some báráni villages in Bhiwáni, Hánsi and Fatehabad, which pay a third or a half of the revenue in June. The average area of rabi in these parts varies from 18 to 22 per cent., and may be taken at one-fifth; and there is so much less kharíf. I however propose that the same rule should apply to these as to báráni villages with no rabi instalment. These villages will appear perhaps too often in the statement prepared under para. 6, but the villages are not numerous, and those in Bhiwáni Harriána, where the revenue is high, require careful watching. The enquiry made in these villages would bear only upon the kharíf instalment, and the special report would be required only when less than 66 per cent. had been cropped in the three harvests.

Rabi instalment.

8. Next, we have to consider the rabi instalment of these villages. If such a village has cropped at least a third in each of the two kharífs and so does not appear in the statement at all, it can, in my opinion, pay the rabi instalment, however poor the rabi crop may be. Also if the village did appear in the statement, but the total area cropped in the three harvests was 66 per cent. of the cultivated area, I still think it should be able to pay the rabi instalment. But on the other hand, if a special report had to be submitted under para. 6, then the village should be again reported upon after the rabi. A village in difficulties at the end of the kharíf will require a good rabi to enable it to pay the rabi instalment. The result then is that the enquiry made at the end of the kharíf will determine what *baráni* villages have to be reported upon in the rabi. The special report on the conclusion of the rabi should be with the Collector by the end of April.

Canal villages.

9. The revenue in the canal villages is paid in equal instalments in December and June, and 20 out of the 59 canal villages are considered secure, and need not form the subject of special enquiry. Of the remaining 39, the 10 villages in Hánsi tahsíl (see margin) with at least a third of their cultivated area capable of irrigation may also be regarded as so far secure that the report required for báráni villages at the end of each kharíf need not be submitted for them. The other canal villages in both tahsíls, 29 in all, should be treated in the same way, as the báráni villages with rabi instalments—see paras. 7 and 8. It will rarely be necessary to submit a special report on any of the canal villages; but some of them which have very little irrigated land require watchfulness.

1. Majhoud.
2. Dhana.
3. Shekhpura.
4. Thurana.
5. Sulchani.
6. Kagsar.
7. Kheri Sheorán.
8. „ Bojh.
9. Moth Colonel Sáhib.
10. Kajil.

Náli Sotar villages.

10. The villages in the Náli Sotar circles may be divided into three classes:—

(*a*). Villages with so small a portion of Sotar that they may for present purposes be treated as pure báráni villages.

(*b*). Villages in which the cultivated area is entirely or almost entirely Sotar, and in which the báráni area may be neglected.

(*c*). Villages in which the proportions of Sotar and *báráni* are such that neither class can be excluded from consideration.

In a statement in the file, the villages are divided into these classes by name—

	Class (*a*).	Class (*b*).	Class (*c*).	Total.
Tohána Náli	4	23	17	44
Ratia Nàli	11	9	48	68
Total	15	32	65	112

These villages have rabi instalments, and some enquiry is necessary after each harvest. Those in class (*a*) would be treated in the manner proposed for báráni villages in paras. 6, 7 and 8. In class (*b*), the kharíf is of as little importance as the rabi in báráni villages. The Sotar of Fatehabad had on an average 72 per cent. cropped in rabi, and of Barwála 64 per cent. The procedure suggested in paras 6, 7 and 8 for báráni villages in regard to the kharíf should be applied to these Náli villages in regard to the rabi. The kharíf in the former takes the place of the rabi in the latter and *vice versâ*; and if a special report was required on the conclusion of the rabi the village should in all cases

be again reported upon after the kharíf. For villages in class (c) the Tahsíldár should prepare at the end of each harvest a statement showing the villages in which less than *a fourth* has been cropped; and in regard to each he will note whether 66 per cent. has been cropped in the harvest under report and in the two preceding harvests together. If this limit has been reached, no special report need be submitted. This will bring these villages often enough before the Deputy Commissioner; a limit of one-third would have brought them too often. Indeed even one-fourth may be too high, but it errs on the right side, as the Sotar villages require constant attention.

11. In the preceding paragraphs I have proposed that in certain cases special reports should be submitted about certain villages; and some of the information required *must* come in a report, but the Tahsíldár's work will be much reduced if the village note-book is used for all the information it can give. The points that should be noted are—

(1). Village tenure, zamíndári, pattidári, bhaiachára.

(2). Caste of the proprietors and the khudkásht area, and whether any proprietors have left.

(3). Area cultivated by tenants and how the rent is paid in cash or in kind, and whether any tenants have left.

(4). In the case of cash rents, whether they have been, or are likely to be paid.

(5). The state of the crop in regard to fodder as distinguished from grain; and whether there are old stores of fodder.

(6). The state of the cattle, whether they have left the village or not.

(7). Whether the people are accustomed to engage in the transport trade, either with carts or camels.

(8). The prospects of the rabi, which are sometimes good when the rains are late, even though the kharíf may have been a failure.

(9). Whether it is customary to collect grazing dues, and the amount ordinarily collected. In the Náli villages, to which droves of cattle come from other parts of the district, this part of the report will be important, as the revenue is often paid from grazing dues, especially in villages where practically the whole cultivated area is shown as Sotar.

(10). In Sotar villages, the area of báráni and of Sotar cropped should be given for the three harvests concerned.

(11). In the English note-book of each village the total demand has been roughly distributed to show the approximate assessment on báráni and on Sotar cultivation, and on waste separately. In case of failure of the Náli, these figures will assist in deciding what the amount of suspension should be. A list giving the same information is also in this file.

(12). The revenue can be paid if 50 per cent. of the area entered as cultivated at *settlement* (1890) is cropped. This should be borne in mind where there has been any considerable increase in cultivation since settlement. The cultivated area which has formed the basis of the assessment has been recorded in the village note-books.

12 (*a*). On receiving the report, the Collector may at once exclude from further consideration all zamíndári and true pattidári villages where rents are paid in cash. Experience has shown that tenants in such cases pay their rent however poor the harvest may be; and even though rents are not paid in full, large proprietors are able to pay the revenue. Circumstances might arise in which suspension was necessary in such villages, but they would be very exceptional.

(*b*). There would be more doubt when rent is paid in such villages by batái or kankut. In these cases the receipts vary greatly from year to year, and suspensions may be necessary but will ordinarily not be asked for by large proprietors, and should not be given too freely. Large proprietors have usually the accumulations of past years to draw upon, and should, as a rule, be made to pay without regard to the harvest. But, if the proprietors happen to be in poor circumstances (and some Rájpút proprietors live from hand to mouth) suspensions will be required and should be given.

(*c*). In bhaiachára villages belonging to Rájpúts, whether Hindús or Mussalmáns, and including Pachhádás, where comparatively a large area is in the hands of tenants paying cash rents, it will be for consideration whether at least a part of the revenue should not be suspended. Rents in such villages are not paid with the same regularity as in zamíndári and pattidári villages, nor are they paid on land which perforce has not been sown. In Pachháda villages if the waste is still large and the stock of cattle also large and not reduced by sales or mortality, suspension will not be so necessary as in Rájpút villages where fewer cattle are kept.

(*d*). As a very general rule, if, though grain has failed, there has still been a fairly good crop of fodder, suspensions will not be required in any village.

(*e*). Bhaiachára villages belonging to Jats and others who cultivate most of their own land (khudkásht), where no rents are coming in and the crop has failed, call for special consideration. If they have large herds of horned cattle, as is common in the Harriána and Náli, or keep camels as in the Bágar, it is not likely that they will ask for suspension or wish it, even if the Deputy Commissioner should be willing to allow it. But in the poorer villages suspension may be necessary, especially if fodder is scarce and there is mortality among the cattle, or if many have already been sold.

The difference between the cases (*c*) and (*e*) is mainly this that in the former the people will probably apply for, and be anxious to get suspensions without making much effort to pay the revenue, while in the latter, with few exceptions, applications for suspensions will not be made until the village is in difficulties and really requires suspensions.

(*f*). Suspensions will occasionally be necessary on the Náli; but grazing dues will in not a few cases go far to pay the revenue on Sotar in villages where the Náli is most likely to fail, and almost all Náli villages are rich in cattle. The dread of irrecoverable arrears and consequent fluctuating assessment will prevent the Pachhádás from making unnecessary applications. In para. 61 of the Assessment Report, I have shown that Rs. 18,000 was to be assessed on 15,000 acres cropped; this falls roughly at Rs. 1-4 per acre *cropped*, and the Collector may, with the crop returns and the assessment on Sotar before him, calculate whether the Settlement Officer's estimate has been reached or not. In villages with a large area of Sotar of very uncertain inundation, and in which the revenue assessed fell at a low rate on the whole recorded Sotar, this calculation will be useful. In such cases little attention need be paid to the total area of cultivation. No suspension need be given if the revenue at Rs. 1-4 on the cropped area approaches the assessment on Sotar.

13. It is thus evident that, though it has been considered expedient to arrange that the Collector's attention be drawn to certain villages, it is not necessary that he should give suspensions in each case. It is possible, even probable, that I have pitched the limit of 66 per cent. of the cultivated area for a normal crop too high. The Tahsíldárs were in favor of 50 per cent., and it was only to be on the safe side at the start that I have suggested 66 per cent. Probably the reports will be required for many villages which will neither want nor get suspensions. Should this be so, the limits may be reduced to 50 and 25 per cent.

14. The Collector alone can decide where any and what amount of suspension should be allowed. No hard-and-fast rule of proportion would be safe. All that it is safe to say is that the people are not accustomed to suspensions nor to depend merely on their crops for the payment of the revenue, but on the contrary can and do pay it by sale of ghi, or of cattle, or by wages or

hiring carts and camels for transport; and in such a district as Hissár this custom should be maintained as far as possible. We should not then give suspensions too readily; but when suspensions are necessary they should extend to the whole or at least a very substantial part of the demand. The suspension of the fourth or fifth of the revenue would, in my opinion, be not only useless in this district, but pernicious, as tending to discourage thrift and encourage laziness.

15. My proposals may on the one hand appear too elaborate so far as enquiry is concerned, and on the other incomplete in so far as they do not give a "general or exemplar scale of suspensions." Beyond them I cannot go, and even if they are not accepted they will still give the Deputy Commissioner some principles on which to proceed in deciding whether suspensions should be given or not.

Statement referred to in para. 5.

Tahsíl.	Number of Circle.	Circle.	Instalment due in Kharíf.	Instalment due in Rabi.	Total.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bhiwáni ...	1	Eastern Harriána	19,550	9,775	29,325
	2	Western „	16,625	...	16,625
	3	Amráin	37,523	...	37,523
	4	Bahl, Siwáni	23,650	...	23,650
		Total Tahsíl	97,348	9,775	1,07,123
Hánsi ...	5	Eastern Harriána	68,086	2,465	70,551
	6	Western „	43,205	...	43,205
	7	Canal	29,106	29,105	58,211
		Total Tahsíl	1,40,397	31,570	1,71,967
Hissár ...	8	Bágar	33,320	...	33,320
	9	Eastern Harriána	35,794	...	35,794
	10	Western „	14,476	...	14,476
	11	Barwála „	28,970	...	28,970
	12	Canal	11,616	10,266	21,882
		Total Tahsíl	1,24,176	10,266	1,34,442
Fatehabad ...	13	Eastern Bágar	25,226	...	25,226
	14	Western „	14,000	...	14,000
	15	Harriána	30,322		30,322
	16	Náli Báráni (Fatehabad) ...	15,202	110	15,312
	17	„ Sotar (Fatehabad) ...	25 458	23,934	49,392
	18	„ Báráni (Tohána)	16,910	10,920	27,830
	19	„ Sotar (Tohána)	8,195	8,194	16,389
		Total Tahsíl ...	1,35,313	43,158	1,78,471
		GRAND TOTAL ...	4,97,234	94,769	5,92 003

Note by J. G. Silcock, Esquire, (Deputy Commissioner and Settlement Collector) on the scheme of suspensions and remissions in the Delhi District.

No. 414, dated 1st October 1894.

From—Colonel L. J. H. Grey, C.S.I., Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division,

To—The Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

Copy of the following letter No. 177, dated 21st September 1894, from the Deputy Commissioner, Delhi, regarding secure and insecure areas in the Delhi District, forwarded to the Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab, for information.

No. 177, dated 21st September 1894.

From—J. G. Silcock, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Delhi,

To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division.

With reference to Revenue Circular No. 31, annexure C, paragraph 8, I have the honor to submit the following note on the secure and insecure areas in the Delhi District. I have classified as insecure the following number of estates :—

	Bangar.	Khádar.	Sailába.	Dabar.	Kohi.	Zerkohi.	Khandrát.
Tahsil Delhi	8	36	...	28	13	6	8
„ Sonepat	3	26	...	...	...	...	...
„ Ballabgarh	9	51	12	...	15	20	...
Total ...	20	113	12	28	28	26	8
Grand Total ...	235						

2. The condition of the Delhi District has thus been described in Punjab Revenue Circular No. 31, paragraph 12 : "The precariousness of cultivation in unirrigated areas is one of the special features of the agriculture of this Province, and is nowhere more forcibly exemplified than in the districts of the old Delhi territory. In the Delhi District the Government have drawn attention to the fact that one-half of the district will always call for careful and considerate treatment in seasons of prolonged and severe drought, and the instructions that the full amount is to be realized in normal years only have been fully approved and confirmed by the Government of India." Thus there are special reasons for watching the working of the assessments of the unirrigated lands in all seasons of scarcity of rainfall.

1. Rawota.
2. Gumanbera.
3. Zainpur.
4. Shikárpur.
5. Bahlolpur Dehri.

3. In this district there are altogether five villages (in tahsíl Delhi) noted in the margin, which have fluctuating assessment for part of them. For these portions there is no necessity of any scheme for suspensions, but the parts which are not so assessed are classed as insecure.

All the villages subject to periodical river floods have been shown in blue and classed as insecure.

4. Leaving the above-mentioned two classes, the other villages have been shown as secure and insecure with regard to their irrigated area and the general condition of the soil and the people. The Tahsíldárs have thus shown as secure all the villages in

which the area irrigated from canal or well is 50 per cent. or above of the cultivated area; and also some others which have not so much irrigation, but are otherwise well off. But in reality most of the later villages, which have been classed as secure, depend on rain and cannot remain secure in times of continuous drought.

5. *Suspensions.*—The people are not accustomed to suspensions, and they are afraid of accumulating a burden of arrears.

6. As to the system to be adopted in granting suspensions, no hard-and-fast rule of proportion would be safe. As stated in paragraph 9, annexure C of Circular No. 31 : "No automatic adjustment of suspensions to the degree of failure of crops could be made to work here." But it may be taken as an axiom that if the crops harvested are less than 50 per cent. of the area cultivated, the circumstances of the village will ordinarily require careful enquiry, and, if on inspection of the harvests and close observation of the condition of the people, it is found that revenue cannot be paid, the revenue might well be left uncollected in whole or in part until the return of more favourable seasons.

7. As mentioned above, people would not ordinarily like to avail themselves of this form of relief, but the Collector may issue a general order to the Tahsíldárs to report cases requiring such relief before the *girdáwari* months, and then the Collector or his Revenue Assistant should, by personal inspection, satisfy himself of the necessity of suspensions.

8. The following maps which pertain to this letter have been forwarded to the Director of Land Records and Agriculture :—

5 Copies of the map of the district.
5 ,, ,, ,, Tahsíl Delhi.
5 ,, ,, ,, ,, Sonepat.
5 ,, ,, ,, ,, Ballabgarh.

Note by Mr. E. B. Francis, Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepore, on scheme of suspensions and remissions in the Ferozepore District.

No. 1922 N., dated 13th July 1895.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel C. F. MASSY, Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division,

To—The Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

Sub-Head No. V.
File No. 19.

I BEG to enclose copy of letter No. 649 of the 16th April last, from the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepore, to the Director, Land Records and Agriculture (received by me on 22nd May), submitting a proposal for the up-keep of a register in English which shall enable the Collector to ascertain the extent of distress prevailing in villages of which the area is classed as insecure. This is made with reference to action required under paragraph 9 of Financial Commissioner's Circular No. 1 of 3rd January 1890, directing the submission of schemes for the working of revenue remissions in famine years.

2. Mr. Francis proposes to maintain in an English Register a list of the insecure villages and to enter opposite each, harvest by harvest, the incidence of the revenue on crops matured as compared with the incidence on a similar area at settlement, taking the figures from the crop returns as they are entered in the village note-books. By this means the Collector will have before him the state of the villages for a series of years, and he will know when it is desirable to take action after making further enquiries, the general principle being that a remedy will be needed when the harvest rate is double the land revenue rate imposed at settlement.

3. To make the reference complete, I took the opinions of Messrs. Anderson, Douie and Rose. I append abstracts of their replies. Mr. Anderson advices the maintenance of registers in Urdu by tahsíls. Mr. Douie is also inclined to take this view, noting that the necessary information is readily available by reference to the jinswár statements in the village note-books. It appears to me that if the Collector fixes his "danger rate" at double the rate adduced from the area of successful crops over a period of ten years preceding, and checked by the jama incidence at settlement, he will have data on which to act. This will usually be supplemented by information from other sources, and I doubt if a good Collector would require figures in English to bring the facts to his notice. On the whole, I would leave it optional to maintain an English Register at head-quarters or merely allow reference to registers kept at tahsíls in Vernacular.

No. 649, dated 16th April 1895.

From—The Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepore,

To—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab.

I HAVE the honor to return the maps received with your No. 422 of 6th March last, after adding the necessary red tinting.

The maps might be somewhat altered now as regards the south and west of Fázilka, where canal irrigation has been further extended since the maps were made; but the irrigation arrangements are even now not quite complete, and I have found that some villages put down by the Canal Officers as commanded by their distributaries have not yet got any water, so that I have made no changes at present.

2. As regards a scheme for remissions and suspensions in bad seasons, I must begin by saying that I would not absolutely exclude the "secure villages" from consideration; for in the past year of unusually heavy rainfall some villages in the Zíra Bet Circle have been brought within a short distance of requiring suspensions, not by drought, but by excess of canal water combined with an excess of rain water and river water. These villages are necessarily among those ordinarily classed as secure.

3. The next thing is that it seems more important to provide a means for bringing all cases of possible distress before the Deputy Commissioner for consideration than to tell that officer exactly what he is to do when they came before him. I have thought over the various ways in which this object might be attained, and conclude that the simplest and best way will be to utilize the incidence figure which is entered by the Patwári in the last column of every crop return and is copied by the Office Kánúngo into the note-book of each village. This will save the trouble and delay of making any special calculations. The said incidence is reckoned upon the *kanál* in the four northern tahsíls and on the *kachcha bigha* in Fázilka. The kanál is ·1033 of an acre, and the incidence of the revenue at settlement was in Zíra, Ferozepore and Moga about 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ anna per kanál on baráni, and about 2 annas per kanál on irrigated land. In Muktsar the rate on baráni land was about $\frac{3}{4}$ anna, but on the irrigated about 2 annas as in the northern tahsíls. In Fázilka the settlement rate per *kachcha bigha*, which is $\frac{5}{24}$ths of an acre, was about 1 anna. The land under fixed assessment in that tahsíl is nearly all baráni.

4. I propose that the Office Kánúngos at the tahsíls be directed to extract from the crop statements each season the names and incidences of all villages where the figure is 3 annas or upwards in Moga, Zíra or Ferozepore or in the Hithár, Utár or Dhora Circles of Mamdot, all those where it is 2 annas or upwards in the Muktsar *Pargana* or in the Rohi Circle of Mamdot, and also all those where it rises above 2 annas (on the kachcha bigha) in any village not under fluctuating assessment in Fázilka. There are some villages in Fázilka where the whole assessment of the year is paid in the kharíf season, but they need not be excepted from the above rule. If any village was on this list in either of the two immediately preceding seasons, this should be noted.

In the Deputy Commissioner's office an English Register should be kept containing the names of all insecure villages, and with some spare pages for the entry of others in which the incidence may come above the minimum. Opposite each village should be 40 narrow columns for the 40 seasons of the remaining term of settlement. These need only be wide enough for the entry of a single numeral.

Whenever a village appears in a tahsíl list an entry of the incidence figure in annas omitting fractions should be made. Where, owing to the almost complete loss of a crop, the incidence is over 16 annas, it will suffice to put a cross instead of the numeral. A copy of this letter should be made in the opening pages of the register, also a copy of paragraph 25 of my Final Settlement Report on the northern tahsíls, of paragraph 20 of the Muktsar Assessment Report, and of the corresponding paragraphs in Mr. Wilson's Settlement Report for Fázilka.

5. I have had statements made on this plan as an experiment for the three or four years and find that the number of villages which will have to be reported and entered is not inconveniently large.

6. The amount of the fluctuating canal-advantage rate which is levied on lands irrigated from the inundation canals is not known to the Patwári at the time of his sending in his kharíf crop return, and it has not hitherto been taken into account in working out the incidence; nor indeed has it hitherto been shown in the Revenue Statement in the village note-books, though I have ordered this to be done in future. To avoid making an occasion for delay on the Patwári's part, I think the Deputy Commissioner had better do without the inclusion of the canal-advantage demand. The omission will not be likely to affect his action; for if the canal rules are properly worked villages will not be crushed by their canal-advantage rate while able to pay their dry revenue. He must take other means of looking out for undue swamping and hope that in future there will not be nearly so much of that evil.

7. Now as to the Deputy Commissioner's action. He need not ordinarily take any notice on the first occasion of a village appearing on the list, more especially if it is the kharíf season, for there are many villages which never expect much kharíf, nor even on its appearing in two consecutive seasons. But when any name comes up for three seasons in succession the Tahsíldár should usually be directed to report on the condition of the proprietors and the progress of alienations, and advise whether any suspension is needed. The paragraphs which I have quoted from the Settlement Reports will form a guide. It would no doubt be more convenient if, instead of showing incidence figures separately for the two seasons, we could have one figure for the whole agricultural year, but to get this separately calculated would cause delay in the tahsíls. In fact, it would seldom be sent until four or five reminders had been issued from the District Office; whereas the season's incidence being calculated by the Patwárís, will come in regularly and of itself. If this proposal is approved, I will set it going before I leave the district.

Extract from a letter No. 701, dated 6th June 1895, from the Deputy Commissioner, Kángra, to the Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.

* * * * * *

In my opinion such a register will be useful in such a district as Ferozepore; but I think it would be enough to have a tahsíl register in Urdu or in Roman, which would be sent to the Deputy Commissioner for inspection. A tahsíl register and a sadr register seem scarcely necessary. I tried to introduce a similar arrangement in Hissar on the conclusion of the settlement, but my proposal was based on areas cropped compared with the areas which formed the basis of assessment.

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Extract from a letter No. 242 of 12th June 1895, from the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiána, to the Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.

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2. The recommendations seem to me admirable, and some such systematic collection of information is a necessary preliminary to any really useful scheme for the remission and suspension of revenue. At present there is nothing definite to go upon.

* * * * * *

In Shahpur Mr. Wilson has devised a scheme by which fluctuating assessment rates are worked out at each harvest by the Patwári. I am disposed to think this a more scientific system in theory, though Mr. Francis' system would obviously be simpler in practice. In paragraph 13 of the Financial Commissioner's Review Mr. Wilson's system is said to be somewhat too elaborate, but the Pátwárís here are as a rule quite intelligent enough with some training and supervision to make the calculations required, and I propose to introduce it.

I should then enter in the English Register cases in which the amount due exceeds the fluctuating assessment estimate increased by 50 per cent. As a rule, no suspension would be needed in this district until a village had appeared in the register for three successive seasons.

Generally speaking, the Tahsíldár need not even report till the second season except in a few Bet villages in which recent floods have done damage. This system can easily be introduced.

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Extract from a letter No. 131 of 9th July 1895, from the Deputy Commissioner, Jullundur, to the Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.

* * * * * *

I agree with Mr. Francis that the best rough test to apply in deciding whether an enquiry should be started as to the necessity of suspensions in an estate is the incidence of the demand of the harvest or the area of successful crops. It is also a most valuable test in deciding at a subsequent harvest whether revenue already suspended can be collected. Mr Francis' plan seems to contemplate the bringing to the Deputy Commissioner's notice all cases where the harvest rate is double the land revenue rate for the circle imposed at settlement. The matter is probably more complicated here than in Ferozepore, for I fancy we have more revenue soil rates and a greater variation in the all-round rates between village and village in the same circle. I agree that all cases where the harvest rate is abnormally high should be brought especially to the Deputy Commissioner's notice, and I propose in consultation with the Revenue Assistant to fix what I may call a *"danger rate"* for each circle, and to order that when the harvest rate in any estate amounts to or exceeds that "danger rate," the vernacular jinswár and the village note-book shall be laid before the Deputy Commissioner for orders. * * *

No. 130, C., dated 30th July 1895.

From—R. Sykes Esquire, C. S., Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab,

To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.

In reply to your letter No. 1922 N., dated the 13th July 1895, regarding the manner in which Deputy Commissioners should ascertain whether suspensions of revenue are required or not, I am to say that the exact form in which the enquiry into the condition of villages should be made may be left to the District Officers, but some such plan as that proposed by Mr. Francis, Mr. Douie or Mr. Wilson should be adopted.

Panjab Government Press, Lahore—29-8-95—118.

Note on Suspensions in the Jhang District.

No. 261, dated 30th March 1891.

From—E. B. Steedman, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiárpur,
To—The Director of Land Records, Punjab.

I have the honor to reply to your No. 286 of 16th February 1891, directing me to carry out the instructions contained in Revenue Circular 31, Annexure C., in regard to the Jhang district.

Maps not prepared.

2. I am unable to prepare the maps, but there will be no difficulty in having the maps prepared by the Deputy Commissioner of Jhang in accordance with the opinions expressed in this report if they are approved.

Areas under fluctuating assessment.

3. First the areas under fluctuating assessments have to be shown by a blue wash. These areas have, I believe, altered somewhat since I left Jhang. But roughly they are, I think, as follows in each tahsíl and assessment circle :—

Chiniot.	
Halkiwah circle	Two villages.
Jhang.	
Bár circle	All villages.
Kachi circle	
Centre circle	A few villages.
River circle	
Shorkot.	
Bár circle	All villages.
Kachi circle	
River circle	A few villages.
Centre circle	

The Deputy Commissioner will be able to show any additions if there are any.

Areas to be classed as secure.

4. The above areas being excluded I would class as secure all the villages in the River or Hithár circles of all three tahsíls. I think that, on the whole, they are more properly classed as "secure" than as "insecure," though I am quite aware that good arguments can be adduced to show that they are not secure. I am of opinion that in their case there is no necessity to frame any "systematic scheme regulating the grant of suspensions." The Jhelum and Lower Chenáb villages are, I think, secure, but in some of the villages on the Upper Chenáb the crops are a little precarious.

I would further class the villages of the Halkiwah circle, not under fluctuating assessment, as secure, and also the villages of the central Jhelum circle.

Areas classed as insecure.

5. All villages in other circles I would class as insecure. These circles are given below for each tahsíl :—

Chiniot.

The Centre, Bár and Utár circles.

Jhang.

The Centre and Utár circles.

Shorkot.

The Centre circle.

Insecurity of riverain villages and proposals.

6. Though I have classed the riverain villages as secure, it may be necessary to give suspensions or remissions at times. If the village is permanently injured and a reduction of assessment is needed, I would always place it under fluctuating assessment. It is impossible to lay down a hard-and-fast rule for suspensions, but as a rule, I would suspend only where the assessment is light and the crops are subject from year to year to considerable variations in area and yield. If the villagers say they cannot pay the fixed assessment let them take a fluctuating assessment.

I would assent at once to any application for a fluctuating assessment and I would never grant a reduction of assessment unless accompanied by the introduction of a system of fluctuating assessment.

Proposals for deteriorated upland villages.

7. It is more difficult to say what should be done in the case of the centre and upland circle villages. Each village and each case must be considered separately. It is quite possible that the cultivation in a village in the upland circles may have immensely decreased without any impoverishment of the proprietors. They may have taken up báráni kásht in the Bár or have gone off for a time with their flocks and herds in search of grass. In such cases no suspension or remission is needed. Further I may say that suspensions are hardly ever suited for these well-irrigated upland villages. I would refer you to paras. 190—194 of the Jhang Settlement Report for a description of how a village deteriorates and why suspensions are unsuited. It is I think a simpler and a safer remedy to at once place an upland village under fluctuating assessment than to give suspensions or reductions of the Government demand. The bringing back again under cultivation of well-irrigated lands is a very different matter from the re-cultivation of rain lands or sailáb areas that have been for a time abandoned because the seasons have been unfavorable. I would therefore recommend that whenever it is considered necessary to give suspensions or remissions of revenue the village in question should be put under the system of fluctuating assessment that obtains in the Kachi. I am assuming that the deterioration is more or less permanent, and my proposals do not contemplate temporary injuries by hail, locusts, &c.

8. I return the maps. I shall after a month forward the office copies of the correspondence to the Deputy Commissioner, Jhang, for record in his office.

Note by G. Walker, Esquire (Deputy Commissioner and Settlement Collector), on the scheme of suspensions and remissions in the Lahore District.

No. 788, dated 22nd October 1894.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel J. B. Hutchinson, Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division,
To—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab.

I have the honor to forward, for orders of Financial Commissioner, copy of letter of Deputy Commissioner, Lahore, No. 509 C., dated 19th instant, and of its annexure, being the report of Mr. G. Walker on the classification of the area of the district into secure and insecure tracts. The map alluded to also accompanies.

2. The map, I think, shows fairly well the portions of the district which are insecure.

3. I am of opinion that the general rule to guide the District Officer in granting suspensions as given in paragraph 4 is a good rule; but it is especially necessary to enquire from the villagers if they want a suspension. As a general rule I know they would prefer paying up at once, if they possibly can do so, rather than have the demand merely postponed.

No. 52, dated 10th January 1895.

From—F. A. Robertson, Esquire, Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab,
To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.

With reference to your No. 788, dated 22nd October last, forwarding copy of Mr. Walker's report on classification of area into secure and insecure tracts, together with a map of the Lahore District, I have the honor to state that the map has been returned to the Deputy Commissioner to have the tahsíl maps prepared on tracing cloth, as per instructions contained in paragraphs 1 and 7 of annexure C to Revenue Circular No. 31.

The scheme prepared by the Settlement Officer regarding future grant of suspension and remission of revenue, herewith returned, should be sent by you direct to the Senior Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, in accordance with paragraph 8 of the above-mentioned annexure.

Endorsement by the Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.
No. 34, dated 14th January 1895.

Copy forwarded to R. Sykes, Esquire, Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab, for orders as regards future suspensions and remissions of revenue.

No. 509 C., dated 19th October 1894.

From—A. E. Hurry, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Lahore,
To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.

I have the honor to forward Mr. Walker's report, accompanied by a district map showing the division of the district area into secure and insecure tracts, and to state that several copies of the map will be prepared for record when the Director of Land Records has approved of it.

As regards the scale to be adopted as a general guide in granting suspensions in the insecure tracts, Mr. Walker has referred to paragraphs 131 to 134 of his Settlement Report.

Report, dated Aden, the 22nd August 1894, by G. C. Walker, Esquire, late Settlement Officer, Lahore District, to A. E. Hurry, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Lahore.

With reference to the instructions in paragraphs 5 to 10, annexure C of Land Revenue Circular No. 31, for the classification of secure and insecure areas, I have the honor to enclose a map showing by a red wash coloring the tracts in Lahore District which I consider should be classed as insecure.

2. Briefly, these tracts are as follows:—

(*i*). The whole of the Sharakpur tahsíl, of which the most insecure portion is the Bár circle, and next to that the Kallarathi circle.

(*ii*). In Chuniáu tahsíl—

(a) All land outside the Sailáb Chaks in the Rávi Wár and Rávi Pár assessment circles.

(b) All land between the Hudiárah Rakh and the Rávi river and certain selected villages lying on the west of the Mánjha tract of Chunián tahsíl.

(c) All that portion of the Dubb circle which lies west of the Kanganpur and Chunián road.

(d) All estates of the Dubb or Hithár circle lying south of the Kanganpur and Khudián road.

(e) All estates lying between the Khudián and Chunián road on the south and the Dhara bank of the Mánjha up-lands on the north.

(iii). In Kasúr tahsíl all Bet Bángar circle lying west of Kasúr and certain selected estates of the Hithár circle.

(iv). In Lahore tahsíl. The central villages of the Mánjha Khára circle, which do not get canal irrigation. These have been specified by name and lie fairly well in one group.

3. This is perhaps a somewhat broader classification than the terms of the instructions under reference appear to contemplate, but it is as precise as I can make, with any claim to accuracy. It is impossible to pick out individual estates all over the district and say they are less secure than others adjoining them. In my late assessments I endeavoured to secure perfect equality of assessment for all estates with reference to the varying agricultural conditions of each estate.

4. As to the considerations which should guide the Revenue Officers of the district in deciding where suspension of revenue is necessary, I would refer to paragraphs 131 to 134 of my Settlement Report. I do not intend to propose any rule based on the incidence of the recent assessment of the estates named above on the cultivated area of settlement or on their cropped area in any particular harvest as guides to the District Officers in deciding whether they should propose suspension of revenue to superior authorities or not and in settling what proportion of the revenue they should propose to suspend. A District Officer who knows anything of the district, or if there be no such officers then the Tahsíldár, if he gives a little attention to the matter, is perfectly well able to say beforehand what estates are likely to require suspension ; and after looking through the crop records he can make a pretty good guess at how much revenue should be suspended. Any hard-and-fast rules on such a subject, or any precisely fixed scale of suspension, would undoubtedly work injustice, sooner or later, or would unnecessarily hamper the District Officer. For the general guidance, however, of the Deputy Commissioner, and, still more, as a simple and satisfactory test for controlling authorities, I offer the following rule—that no suspension of revenue for drought be allowed in any estate, unless it can be shown that the value of the crops matured in the harvest, the instalment due for which it is proposed to suspend, excluding all fodder crops, is less than four times the total instalment due, if the kharíf harvest be concerned ; or than six times the total instalment due, if the rabi harvest be concerned. The value of the crops can easily be worked out by applying the rates of yield and prices stated in paragraphs 58 and 59 of my Settlement Report.

5. I would further suggest that, as all revenue suspended for drought will have to be realized subsequently as arrears, and will only be totally remitted under very exceptional circumstances, it will be advisable, before taking any action in the direction of suspending revenue, to ascertain that the villagers, or a majority of them, really wish for relief in this form, and in forwarding his proposals the Deputy Commissioner should always be required to certify that the villagers concerned have acquiesced in a portion of their revenue being temporarily suspended.

Note by J. A. Grant, Esquire, Settlement Collector, dated 27th June 1893, on Secure and Insecure Areas in the Amritsar District.

I HAVE the honor to forward the maps showing secure and insecure areas in this District, the preparation of which is prescribed in Annexure C to Land Revenue Circular No. 31. I am unable to propose any precise scale to be followed in suspending and recovering revenue, and all I can do is to offer suggestions as to the course to be pursued, and the main points to be borne in mind.

2. I have classed as insecure the following number of estates :—

Whole villages in the	Sailáb circle of Ajnála...	...	47
Do.	do.	Hithár circle of Ajnála	...	51
Do.	do.	Uthár circle of Ajnála	...	28
Do.	do.	Central Mánjha circle of Tarn Táran.		2

All other estates I have classed as secure. Suspension of revenue on account of periodic calamity of season is very unlikely to be required in them, though it is just possible that after an exceptional season, or seasons, of drought, it might be necessary to give relief by suspension to the villages which have least well irrigation, and no canal irrigation, in the Jandiála and Bet Bangar circles of Amritsar, and to the few estates in the Upper and Central Mánjha of Tarn Táran, which have not been reached by the canal.

3. The circumstances of the two insecure villages in Tarn Táran are special, and mention will be separately made of them. In the following paragraphs I refer only to the insecure Ajnála villages which, with a very few exceptions, lie in the tract between the Sakki Nala and the Rávi.

4. The average rainfall is 16 inches in the kharíf and 4 inches in the rabi season. Only about once in ten years is there such a failure of rain in the kharíf season as to cause anxiety, and it would very rarely be necessary to propose relief on account of distress from this cause occurring in a single kharíf harvest. But quite two-thirds of the crops of the year are raised in the rabi, and it is that harvest which requires to be watched most carefully in this part of Ajnála, more especially (it need hardly be said) when a bad rabi follows a rainless kharíf. A total failure of rain in the rabi, more particularly if the monsoon rains have stopped early, may of itself make suspension of revenue necessary, but widespread failure of crops in the kharíf followed by drought in the rabi would almost certainly reduce many of the Hithár villages to a condition which would call for relief.

5. Excessive floods in the summer often ruin the crops in the riverside villages, and in those which grow rice in the depressions leading down to the Sakki; and much of the deterioration in this tract is traced to the excessive floods of 1875. The same plentiful rain, which is giving bumper crops to the rest of the district, may be doing extensive damage in the Ajnála Hithár. But what is most to be feared is drought acting on a naturally poor soil, of which the crops then become wholly dependent on wells worked by undersized cattle, which quickly give in when the store of fodder is exhausted.

6. Suspensions would, as a rule, only be necessary on account of failure of crops in a single kharíf, when the failure of rain has lasted through September and October and the promise for the coming rabi is bad. The people are well accustomed to borrow in order to pay the kharíf revenue, and this they will have no difficulty in doing if there is a promise of a good rabi. And in such a case they prefer to borrow rather than apply for suspension. Where the prospects for the rabi are gloomy, advances are obtained with difficulty, and suspensions might be given if asked for by villages at the lower end of the affected tract, where irrigated cane is little grown. It is little use suspending less than half the kharif demand.

7. A suspension of half, or three-quarters, of the rabi demand would usually be sufficient when the failure is confined to the rabi, and even three-quarters should rarely be exceeded when there has been distress in kharíf

followed by the same in rabi. Suspension of less than half is no use, and the people would generally prefer to pay some part of the rabi demand, say a quarter, to having the whole suspended, save where, as may happen, there is a total failure of crop. In determining the amount to be suspended, the area of fodder crops grown in the kharíf preceding should always be looked to and also the area of cane, which is very largely used for fodder in a dry rabi when the store of *jawár* is exhausted, and efforts are being made to save the wheat crop rather than water the *senji*. But for convenience of account the amount suspended should always be a half, three-quarters, or in exceptional cases, the whole.

8. Where a half of the kharíf demand has been suspended, the recovery of the whole balance should not be attempted in the following rabi, however good it may be. It will be sufficient to collect three-eighths at the most of the outstanding balance, and then only when the rabi harvest both in area and quality is distinctly above the average. The remainder can be left to be recovered in the next succeeding rabi; for the kharíf harvest is rarely so extensive or so good as to be able to pay more than its own share of the revenue. If any recoveries are attempted in the kharíf they should be merely nominal, with a view to reminding the people that there is a balance which, unless disasters accumulate, it is intended to realize. The exact proportion to be recovered should always be stated as so many annas in the rupee, for this facilitates account, and is best understood by the people.

9. In the same way when part of the rabi demand is suspended, there should be no recovery in the next kharíf, or at the most 2 annas per rupee of balance. Recovery should ordinarily be postponed to the following rabi, and even then should not be attempted all in one season, but spread over two, three, or even more, rabi seasons. In an average rabi harvest, 4 annas in the rupee of balance would be enough to recover; in one above average, 6 annas; or, if the harvest was exceptionally favorable, 8 annas. At this rate there should be a reasonable prospect of recovering the balance before another disastrous season came round; for, as already remarked, it is rare that such seasons recur at intervals of less than ten years.

10. It will never be possible to say, in Ajnála, that throughout a whole assessment circle a certain amount should be suspended in each village. It will always be necessary to look into the circumstances of each estate, both in order to give the relief best suited to its condition, and to avoid postponing the collection of revenue which may be easily recoverable. The villages vary widely, and a season which may cause failure of crops in one may be well suited to its neighbour. The same caution should be exercised in deciding the proportion to be recovered when matters begin to mend. It does not follow that every Hithár village has a bumper crop after copious winter rains, the rabi summer floods may have been late in subsiding and prevented the rabi being sown at the proper time; or the Sakki may have risen in flood in spring and spoilt what promised to be a bumper crop; or frost may have ruined the *masar* crop in riverside villages. Or, again, losses of cattle may have prevented the ground being prepared properly and at the right time.

11. When it is intended to recover a fairly large amount of balance in the rabi harvest the Collector will, I think, hardly be able to decide what to take from each village unless he has marched through the Hithár and seen for himself, on the spot, what the harvest is like, and compared the area with the average area of successful crop reaped in four or five preceding rabi harvests. The returns of seven harvests are available in the English note books, and even if these books are not kept up to date for the whole district, it might be well to have them written up for the Sailáb and Hithár circles of Ajnála at least. To decide merely on the reports of the Tahsíldár and Zaildárs is rarely satisfactory; for the one is apt to dislike suspension on account of the trouble involved; and the Zaildárs have always the fear of lost income before their eyes. I may note here that personal inspection of the kharíf harvest is unfortunately made difficult in this Trans-Sakki tract by the total absence of rest-houses. In the rest of this small district there are over 40 rest-houses, but in this, the least secure, the most inaccessible and therefore, least visited part of the district, there is not a single rest-house, except at Rámdás.

12. The careful adjustment of suspensions and recoveries to the circumstances of each estate is all the more necessary as the people are not yet accustomed to the system. They have a dread of the accumulation of a balance against them, and unless they are led to see that there is no intention of recovering except in easy instalments and then only in a season when the recovery will not be felt, they will cease to apply and go back to the Sáhukár till their credit exists no longer. Nor should they be given too easily. The people will have their interests best served in the end by being given relief only after an exceptionally bad season, or after a succession of bad seasons which has seriously damaged their credit.

13. The two villages in Tarn Táran are Mairána and Jauneki, which lie in a corner of the tract once known as the Khára Mánjha. They have no wells and (so far) no canal irrigation, and their crops are extremely precarious. To meet this their revenue has been pitched very low, and they will need no further relief in ordinary bad years. But it may happen, as in 1891 and 1892, that they practically get no crop at all for two, or even three, seasons running, a possibility which was not foreseen when the revenue was fixed ; and in such a case the whole demand should be suspended in the second harvest. Recoveries should only be made in the rabi ; for in the kharíf they grow little but fodder ; for which they have no market. The recovery might be half the balance in a good rabi ; for, from time to time, they get a bumper crop of gram and rape, and the price of the latter is likely to rule high.

List of Insecure Villages in the Amritsar District.

Tahsíl.	Assessment Circle.	No.	Name of Villages.
Tahsil Ajnala ...	Sailab	1	Ráuián.
		2	Kakar.
		3	Manj.
		4	Lodi Gujar.
		5	Hetampur.
		6	Saidpur.
		7	Bhaggupur Uthár
		8	Channa.
		9	Mandiánwála.
		10	Mohleke.
		11	Dag.
		12	Tút.
		13	Vaire.
		14	Bhaggupur Bet.
		15	Kotli Dasondhi.
		16	Kuttiwál.
		17	Túr.
		18	Burj.
		19	Bhindi Seiadán.
		20	Bhindi Aulakh Kalán.
		21	Bhindi Aulakh Khurd.
		22	Jhunj.
		23	Tanána.
		24	Ghoga.
		25	Fatta.
		26	Bahlol.
		27	Sherpur.
		28	Awán Basáo
		29	Niámatabád.
		30	Gulgarh.
		31	Shaháliwál.
		32	Sheikh Bhatti.
		33	Saido Ghází.

List of Insecure Villages in the Amritsar District.—continued.

Tahsil	Assessment Circle.	No.	Name of Villages.
TAHSIL AJNALA ...	SAILAB	34	Khanwál.
		35	Channa.
		36	Ballarwál.
		37	Bal.
		38	Kamírpur.
		39	Darya Mansur.
		40	Daddián.
		41	Kotli Barwála.
		42	Kot Rijáda.
		43	Málikpur.
		44	Darya Músa.
		45	Gaggar.
		46	Singokí.
		47	Nissoki.
	HITHAR	48	Mangánaru.
		49	Kot Gurbaksh.
		50	Shházáda.
		51	Jatta.
		52	Passia.
		53	Tálibpur.
		54	Mahmad Mandránwála.
		55	Nangal Saháwál.
		56	Rurewál.
		57	Dhangai.
		58	Katle.
		59	Pindori.
		60	Awán.
		61	Pairewál.
		62	Dujowal.
		63	Bájwa.
		64	Diál Rajpútán.
		65	Ináyatpur.
		66	Aliwál.
		67	Kotli Kázián.
		68	Gujarpur.

List of Insecure Villages in the Amritsar District.—continued.

Tahsíl	Assessment Circle.	No.	Name of Villages.
TAHSIL AJNALA	HITHAR	69	Gurála.
		70	Tera Rájpútán.
		71	Dalla Mállián.
		72	Dalla Rájpútán.
		73	Lakkuwál.
		74	Fatehwál.
		75	Chak Dogran.
		76	Granth Garh.
		77	Sarangdeo.
		78	Kotli Koka.
		79	Jáfirkot.
		80	Bikraúr.
		81	Saidpur.
		82	Diál.
		83	Súraj Lohár.
		84	Motla.
		85	Phunge.
		86	Chak Aulan.
		87	Dúdhal.
		88	Naipál.
		89	Bahlot.
		90	Kotli Khaira.
		91	Panju Kalál.
		92	Míádi Kalán.
		93	Míádi Khurd.
		94	Kotli Mughlán.
		95	Chak Fateh Khan.
		96	Shahpur.
		97	Varyáh.
		98	Mozaffarpur.
	UTTAR	99	Lakkuwál.
		100	Jassar.
		101	Násir.
		102	Diálpur.
		103	Serái.

List of Insecure Villages in the Amritsar District.—continued.

Tahsíl.	Assessment Circle.	No.	Name of Villages.
Tahsil Ajnala ...	Uttar	104	Chak Phula.
		105	Kotli Koratána.
		106	Talwandi Ráe Dádú.
		107	Ráipur Khurd.
		108	Bolián.
		109	Chína Karm Singh.
		110	Jastarwal.
		111	Cháhíya.
		112	Kariál.
		113	Dharm Kot.
		114	Kákar.
		115	Awán Lakka Singh.
		116	Chúchakwál.
		117	Bhilowál Kákazai.
		118	Kanwen.
		119	Lelián.
		120	Panju Aráin.
		121	Sarangra.
		122	Rái.
		123	Dháriwál.
		124	Chak Ala Baksh.
		125	Pindori.
		126	Odhar.
Tahsil Tarn Tárn ...	Central Mánjha ...	1	Jauneki.
		2	Mairána.

Amritsar,
Dated 27th June 1893.

J. A. GRANT,
Settlement Officer.

Note by L. W. Dane, Esquire, Settlement Collector, on the Suspensions in the Gurdaspur District, dated 2nd April 1892.

Estates under quadrennial revision of assessment.

In the accompanying lists the estates which have been placed under the system of quadrennial* revision of assessment have first been shown, and for the reasons for the adoption of this system, I have to refer to para. 135 of the Batála Assessment Report with para. 4 of the Government Review, and para. 66 of the Gurdáspur Report with para. 26 of the Financial Commissioner's Review.

All of these estates are liable to serious injury from swamping or inundation, which cannot well be allowed for under the di-alluvion rules, and so it has been thought best to class them all as insecure.

Other insecure estates.

2. The other villages in the Gurdáspur and Batála Tahsíls are estates in which the cultivation depends almost entirely on the rainfall, and the soil is either poor and sandy, or desiccated, owing to the vicinity of the Dháia. In Pathánkot the insecure estates are stony *kangar* villages in the Hill Circle and Kandi, where there is a serious risk of failures occurring owing to want of rainfall, or villages affected by the Chak Andar disputes or injured by swamping or loss of water supply due to the Bári Doáb Canal.

In the Shakargarh Tahsíl the villages are mainly Bharrári estates of inferior soil and special disadvantages owing to severe surface denudation or the formation of ravines; it must also be remembered that the whole of this circle as described in para. 36 of the Report and para. 5 of the Government Review is very liable to serious failures, and from want of fodder heavy losses of stock occur. The other villages in this tahsíl are either villages akin to the Bharrári estates, or those in which, owing to the system of well assessment now adopted, a heavy increase has been taken, and whereas the springs are not very good and the people have heretofore paid a very light revenue, the assessment will require careful watching.

In the list brief notes have been given of the reasons for classifying each estate as insecure, which will be a sufficient guide to its condition, and for a more detailed account the English Note-book should be referred to.

System to be adopted in granting suspensions.

3. As to the system to be adopted in granting suspensions I can only repeat the language of para. 9 of annexure C of the Circular:—"No automatic adjustment of suspensions to the degree of failure of crops could be made to work here." Any proposals for postponing the realization of the revenue must be based on actual inspection of the harvest, but it may be taken as an axiom that, if the crop harvested falls short of the normal area as shown in the Note-books by 20 per cent. the circumstances of the villages affected will ordinarily require careful watching, and should the following crops also fail to any great extent the revenue of the second harvest might well be left uncollected, in whole or part, until the return of more favorable seasons.

Difficulties in the way of suspensions.

4. The people do not like the idea of suspensions and will rarely avail themselves of this form of relief, but the Collector will act wisely if he simply orders the Tahsíldár not to collect the revenue, or that portion of it which he considers should be suspended, without waiting for special applications from the people. What generally happens is that they do nothing till the last moment and then ask for a remission, and when told that this cannot be granted they go, however, and raise the revenue by hook or by crook. It ruins them to do this owing to the heavy rates of interest charged in the absence of a crop, and where the distress is really severe it is advisable to save them from themselves. Tahsíldárs, too, are much too prone to consider that the be-all and end-all of revenue administration is

* For orders on proposal of quadrennial revision of assessment see Punjab Government letter No. 107, dated 7th June 1892.

the collection of the current demand to the uttermost farthing, and are also very unwilling to propose suspension or even to allow people to apply for these on the ground of the extra trouble thereby caused to themselves. With our lenient demand the people can usually tide over one harvest easily enough; but a second failure is disastrous as it implies, in most cases, an almost complete loss of stock and the money to buy new cattle must be raised somehow, if the farm is to be carried on at all. The suspension of the demand assists the owner to meet this charge, and is in the long run, though he usually does not himself think so at first, a good thing for him.

Question not one of vital importance in Gurdáspur.

5. On the whole, however, it may fairly be said of this district that, with its large area irrigated by canals and wells and its copious and fairly well distributed rainfall, the question of this classification is not one of vital importance, and the only circles in the working of the new assessment which will require careful watching are the Bharrári, in Shakargarh, and the Hill and Kandi Circles, in Pathánkot.

Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Villages.	Remarks.
			TAHSIL GURDASPUR.	
Bet Ravi ...	1	77	Dheriwata *	Affected by the Bishankot Chhambh and Rávi floods.
	2	81	Chhohán	Affected by the Rávi floods into the Kirán.
	3	82	Jio Jolahi	Ditto.
	4	83	Saleh Chak	Ditto.
Maira Kiran ...	5	105	Kalánaur	Affected by the Rávi floods. Only Bet Chak is affected.
	6	129	Bishankot	A Chhambh village.
	7	130	Kotla Mughlán	Ditto.
	8	131	Chikri	Ditto.
	9	133	Naránwálí	Ditto.
	10	135	Munj	Ditto.
	11	134	Gosál *	Ditto.
	12	136	Manepur	Affected by the Rávi floods into the Kirán.
	13	137	Killa Natha Singh	Ditto.
	14	145	Buche Nangal *	A Chhambh village.
	15	147	Bakhtpur *	Ditto.
	16	148	Kotla *	Ditto.
	17	155	Bhopur *	Ditto.
	18	156	Hasanpur	Liable to inundation from the Kirán.
	19	157	Dakhlá	Ditto.
	20	158	Rádhan	Ditto.
	21	159	Lolenangal	Ditto.
	22	160	Singhowála	Ditto.
	23	161	Mukandpur	Ditto.
	24	162	Chagguwála	Ditto.
	25	163	Ballagan	
	26	164	Kamálpur	
	27	165	Hardo Chhani	
	28	166	Alune	
	29	167	Núrpur	
	30	173	Ali Nangal	Liable to inundation from the Kirán.
	31	174	Qádianwálí	Ditto.
	32	192	Sadda	Ditto.
	33	193	Magarmadián	Ditto.
	34	194	Shekha	Ditto.
	35	195	Ráwalpindi	Ditto.
	36	197	Paháripur	Ditto.
	37	198	Bhulla	Ditto.
	38	199	Khokhar	Ditto.
	39	200	Dabúrí	Ditto.
	40	201	Arjochak	Ditto.

Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Villages.	Remarks.
			TAHSIL GURDASPUR.—*concld.*	
Maira Kiran.—*concld.*	41	202	Dhút	Liable to inundation from the Kirán.
	42	203	Lakhowál	Ditto.
	43	204	Masít	Ditto.
	44	205	Sarái	Ditto.
	45	241	Mustafabád Saiyadán	A Chhambh village.
	46	242	Dewál	Ditto.
	47	243	Ali Chak	Ditto.
	48	245	Bukhra	Ditto.
	49	246	Sadhu Chak	Ditto.
	50	251	Keshopur	Ditto.
	51	252	Matwán	Ditto.
	52	254	Dálá	Ditto.
	53	260	Miání *	Ditto.
	54	263	Shamsherpur	Ditto.
	55	264	Uncha Dhakala	Ditto.
	56	265	Bhaga Kánwán	Ditto.
Nahri ...	57	391	Rania *	Ditto.
	58	413	Badi-ul Zamán *	Ditto.
	59	416	Bhujráj *	Ditto.
Dhia Bet Beas ...	60	537	Bherí *	A Chhambh village. Has recently been drained.
	61	538	Datárpur *	Ditto.
	62	550	Khashálpur *	Ditto.
	63	551	Budhái *	Ditto.
	64	552	Lakhanpur *	Ditto.
	65	553	Shin Bhatti *	Ditto.
	66	554	Ghorewáh *	Ditto.
	67	557	Jalálpur *	Ditto.
	68	573	Kirí Afghánán *	Ditto.
	69	575	Chak Yáqúb *	Ditto.
	70	576	Kalli Ráwalán *	Ditto.
	71	578	Kotla Gujrán *	Liable to inundation from Chhambh.
	72	652	Kot Bhalla *	A Chhambh village.
	73	653	Lahri Vairán *	Ditto.
	74	673	Kalijpur *	Ditto.
			TAHSIL BATALA.	
Maira Kiran ...	1	341	Hardo Ráwal	Liable to inundation from the Kirán.
	2	345	Loháránwáli	Ditto.
	3	344	Tirpála	Ditto.
	4	346	Kot Maulví	Ditto.
	5	349	Pabba Rali	Ditto.

Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Villages.	Remarks.
			TAHSIL BATALA.—*concld.*	
Maira Kiran.—*concld.*	6	350	Malewálí	Liable to inundation from the **Kirán.**
	7	368	Talwandí Rámán	Ditto.
	8	369	Kuthiálí	Ditto.
	9	370	Shahpur Jájan	Ditto.
	10	371	Padde near Talwandí	Ditto.
	11	372	Tarowálí	Ditto.
	12	415	Kotlí Surat Malhi	A Chhambh village affected by the Dihr Chambh.
	13	416	Dhilwán	Ditto.
	14	421	Shikár	Liable to inundation from the **Kirán.**
	15	422	Khawája Verdik	Affected by the Dihr Chambh.
	16	423	Ali Nangal	Ditto.
	17	424	Jiwan Nangal	Ditto.
	18	425	Rausinki Talla	Ditto.
	19	426	Dihar	Ditto.
	20	428	Fattupur	Ditto.
	21	429	Gawára	Ditto.
	22	430	Nabi Nagar	Liable to inundation from the **Kirán.**
	23	431	Dobarji near Dihar	Ditto.
	24	432	Rahímábád	Ditto.
Bet Ravi ...	25	433	Shahpur Goráya	Ditto.
	26	434	Qadián near Shakri	Ditto.
	27	446	Jaurián Khurd	Ditto, Naumaní.
	28	452	Chaura near Chakanwála ..	
	29	453	Talwandí Goráya	
	30	454	Shakri	Liable to inundation from **Kirán.**
	31	455	Tapála	Ditto.
	32	456	Chakanwála	Ditto.
	33	457	Bahlolpur	Ditto.
	34	464	Abdál	Ditto.
	35	465	Ratta	Ditto.
	36	466	Jaurián Kalán	Ditto.
	37	467	Máhal Nangal	Ditto.
	38	479	Mangián	Ditto.
	39	480	Múlowáli	Ditto.
	40	481	Khodeh near Dharmkot ...	Ditto.
	41	482	Khanna Chamári	Ditto.
	42	483	Megha	Ditto.
	43	485	Mahta	Ditto.
	44	486	Singhpura	Ditto.
	45	487	Shámpur near Singhpura ...	Ditto.
	46	491	Talwandí Hinduán	Liable to inundation from **Kirán. Only** one patti, Rámdiál, **affected.**

N.B.—**In Athwál** which was under fluctuating assessment the system of quadrennial revision **has not been introduced, but if necessary** the fluctuating system can be restored.

Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Villages.	Remarks.
			TAHSIL GURDASPUR.	
Maira Kiran	1	106	Sarái	A very poor sandy village. Revenue was reduced during currency of last settlement.
	2	107	Pindi Saiadán	A very poor sandy village.
	3	108	Dewál	Ditto.
	4	109	Pairowál	A very poor sandy village, but rather better than above.
	5	138	Talwandí	Ditto.
	6	139	Máhal	Ditto.
	7	149	Chak Narowáli	Very sandy.
	8	220	Ali Sher	Ditto.
	9	230	Joiyan	Ditto.
	10	239	Variyáh	Very sandy and swampy.
	11	240	Kálá Nangal	Ditto.
	12	261	Passiyál	Wretched *kallar* village.
Nahri	13	297	Akharpura	Sandy and near the Dháia so cut up.
	14	298	Samman Chak	Ditto.
	15	306	Jhande Chak	Very sandy and in parts swampy.
	16	307	Lohgarh	Ditto.
	17	308	Harípur	Ditto.
	18	309	Kohliyán	Swampy.
	19	313	Jahángírpur	Poor and sandy.
	20	314	Naurangpur	Ditto.
	21	330	Dharo Chak	Swampy, has been drained but escape requires looking to.
	22	331	Abul Khair	*Ditto.*
	23	370	Mustáfabád Jattán	Sandy and swampy, near the canal. Was farmed during settlement.
	24	371	Rattowál	Very poor sandy soil.
Bangar	25	484	Kot Budda	Ditto.
	26	486	Khán Malak	Very poor and sandy soil.
	27	495	Langarkot	Very poor and sandy soil, near the Dháia.
	28	496	Bharo Hárni	Ditto.
	29	497	Haveli Hárni	Ditto.
	30	498	Saidpur Hárni	Ditto.
	31	499	Bhokhári Hárni	Ditto.
	32	509	Manj	Very sandy in parts.
	33	510	Gíl	Ditto.
	34	511	Chhína	Ditto.
Bet Dhaia	35	559	Beli	Swampy, under the Dháia.
	36	563	Ghukla	Liable to serious floods and has only recently been drained.
	37	585	Sarwarpur Salho	*Kallar* and liable to floods. Was held khám tahsil during the greater part of settlement.
	38	697	Chhechhián	Poor and cut up by ravines on Dháia.
	39	698	Khunda Salowál	Ditto.

Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Villages.	Remarks.
			TAHSIL BATALA.	
Bangar Batala ...	1	22	Maur	High and dry near the Dháia, but not very insecure.
	2	23	Tahárpur	Ditto.
	3	24	Pindi Rori	Ditto.
	4	25	Wariyah	Ditto.
	5	26	Vithwán	Ditto.
	6	27	Gíl	Ditto.
	7	28	Mathewál	Ditto.
	8	29	Gopálpur	Ditto.
	9	30	Chak Vassan	Ditto.
	10	49	Khuddi near Mari Panwán ...	Ditto.
	11	52	Núrpur	Ditto.
	12	53	Khanpur	Ditto.
	13	54	Galowál	Ditto.
	14	55	Nahre	Ditto.
	15	56	Machrae	Ditto.
	16	57	Pejochak	Ditto.
	17	58	Sokála	Rather inferior soil and held by Rájputs who are in a bad way.
	18	62	Chao Chak	High and dry, near Dháia.
	19	63	Kaure	Ditto.
	20	64	Chak Chao	Ditto.
	21	65	Mand	Ditto.
	22	94	Chak Bhagtupur	Poor and sandy.
	23	107	Ainakot	Ditto.
	24	111	Machhike...	Poor and sandy and held by weak cultivators.
	25	119	Lado Bhána	Poor and sandy.
	26	139	Ammon Nangal	Ditto.
	27	140	Mannan	Ditto.
	28	141	Mirpur	Ditto.
	29	152	Karnámán	Ditto.
	30	153	Sangrái	Ditto.
	31	154	Panjgáráin	Ditto.
	32	164	Kandila	Liable to swamping in places and sandy.
	33	165	Natt near Khojálah	Ditto.
	34	166	Mokal	Heavily assessed as a *báráni* village and requires nursing.
	35	176	Kotla Musa	Poor and sandy in places.
	36	177	Chima inclusive of Bhittewadh	Ditto.
	37	178	Bhittewadh	Ditto.
	38	179	Lohchib	Ditto.
	39	180	Bhágián	Ditto.
	40	181	Dhariwál near Dhunne	Ditto.
	41	182	Dhanne	Ditto.

Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Villages.	Remarks.
			TAHSIL BATALA.—*concld.*	
Bangar Batala—*concld.*	42	183	Thínd	Poor and sandy in places.
	43	191	Awán near Wadála	Ditto.
	44	194	Dunia Sandhu	Ditto.
	45	195	Rasúlpur near Daulâtpur ...	Ditto.
	46	196	Daulatpur	Ditto.
Maira Kiren	47	361	Alipur Virán	Ditto.
	48	367	Niko Sarái	Sandy and swampy in places.
	49	399	Kotli Becharagh near Dalam ...	Inferior soil, but not very insecure.
	50	400	Sáhan Punun	Ditto.
	51	402	Mírkachánu	Ditto.
	52	404	Dhesián	Poor and sandy soil.
	53	405	Koháli near Ogrewáli	Poor and sandy.
	54	411	Luqmánián	Ditto.
			TAHSIL SHAKARGARH.	
Bharrari	1	4	Baira Khurd	A regular Bharrári village with poor soil and much cut up by ravines.
	2	5	Baira Kalán	Ditto.
	3	8	Bhagor Kalán	Ditto.
	4	9	Sapwál	Ditto.
	5	10	Bádála	Ditto.
	6	11	Chamána Khurd...	Ditto.
	7	12	Chamánán Kalán	Ditto.
	8	13	Chhohál	Ditto.
	9	14	Sohawán	Ditto.
	10	15	Kohlián	Ditto.
	11	16	Bairi Kalán	Ditto.
	12	17	Bhagor Khurd	Ditto.
	13	18	Bhoia Khurd	Ditto.
	14	19	Tarapur	Ditto.
	15	28	Thakardáwára	A regular Bharrári village much cut up by ravines.
	16	29	Jumbián Gujrán...	Ditto.
	17	30	Turakwál	Ditto.
	18	35	Dartál Ghurgál	Ditto.
	19	52	Naher	Ditto.
	20	77	Shekhpur Becharágh	Ditto.
	21	82	Khanpur Vairán...	Ditto.
	22	86	Tala	Kalráthi, poor soil and weak proprietor
	23	87	Landra	Kalráthi and dry.
	24	88	Kothra	Ditto.
	25	93	Jhangi	Ditto.
	26	95	Bhárowál...	Ditto.
	27	97	Dusri	Ditto.

Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Villages.	Remarks.
			TAHSIL SHAKARGARH.—*contd.*	
Bharrari—*contd.*	28	110	Maghrál	Much cut up by ravines.
	29	111	Jhamariál	Ditto.
	30	116	Chhanni	Ditto.
	31	120	Chakra	Very high and dry.
	32	121	Pátal Khurd	Ditto.
	33	128	Dudam Kalán	Ditto.
	34	129	Dudam Khurd	Ditto.
	35	130	Tarangara	Ditto.
	36	131	Jhangh	Ditto.
	37	136	Bhatti	Ditto.
	38	141	Sargála	Very high and dry, and cut up by ravines.
	39	143	Adwál	Ditto.
	40	144	Lamárial	Ditto.
	41	145	Tugalpur	Ditto.
	42	147	Vadála	Ditto.
	43	148	Tohána	Ditto.
	44	149	Amrál	Very high and dry and much cut up by ravines.
	45	150	Parni	Ditto.
	46	151	Thakárpur	Ditto.
	47	152	Munnan	Ditto.
	48	157	Tehra	Much cut up by ravines and very dry.
	49	173	Khaira	Ditto.
	50	174	Badwál	Ditto.
	51	176	Bhopálpur Jhikla	Ditto.
	52	177	Bhopálpur Manjhla	Ditto.
	53	178	Bhopálpur Uparla	Ditto.
	54	182	Chak Talla	Ditto.
	55	183	Chak Nahra	Ditto.
	56	184	Chak Jaimal	Ditto.
	57	192	Karohál Dalla	Ditto.
	58	193	Chak Shámán	Ditto.
	59	194	Karohál Rángah	Ditto.
	60	195	Chak Bhopo	Ditto.
	61	196	Khorál	Ditto.
	62	199	Pindi Bhomian	Ditto.
	63	200	Pindi Bakhsha	Ditto.
	64	202	Chak Bharáian	Ditto.
	65	218	Hán	Ditto.
	66	219	Nadála	Ditto.
	67	220	Gujrát	Ditto.

TAHSIL SHAKARGARH.—*concld.*

CIRCLE.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Villages.	REMARKS.
BHARRARI—*concld.*	68	228	Chak Bharáián	Much cut up by ravines and very dry.
	69	229	Dágar	Ditto.
	70	230	Bachhli	Ditto.
	71	232	Alipur	Ditto.
	72	233	Kolián	Ditto.
	73	234	Mehlu	Ditto.
	74	235	Chhángu	Ditto.
	75	236	Gohlu	Ditto.
	76	237	Hakla	Ditto.
	77	238	Katarián	Ditto.
	78	239	Chhale	Ditto.
	79	240	Ramra	Ditto.
PAINTLA	80	319	Darián	Near the edge of the Dháia with but little low land and cut up by ravines.
	81	320	Táhár Becharágh	Ditto.
	82	321	Sandakpur	Ditto.
	83	322	Chak Kalu Khan	Near edge of the Dháia, dry and much cut up by ravines.
	84	346	Jio Chak	Ditto.
	85	364	Gharota	Ditto.
	86	365	Lalián	Ditto.
	87	366	Bhaipur	Ditto.
	88	370	Abhial, Dagárán...	Ditto.
DARAP	89	498	Fattehpur Dattan	Very poor and sandy in parts, and increase taken rather heavy.
	90	499	Chhina	Ditto.
	91	580	Shámpur	Heavy increase due to well assessment system and soil *kalráthi*.
	92	588	Sathiála	Ditto.
	93	589	Bhagwál	Ditto.
	94	590	Kotlí	Ditto.
	95	615	Takhtiál	Ditto.
	96	616	Ladhiál	Ditto.
	97	618	Súd	Soil very sandy.
	98	630	Qanúngoí...	Soil stiff, dry and *kalráthi*.
	99	634	Neamatpur	Ditto.
	100	691	Rángra	Ditto.
	101	700	Gumtalí	Ditto.
	102	701	Jhijowálí	Ditto.
	103	716	Dhidowál	Ditto.
	104	717	Khindárián	Ditto.
	105	718	Jamwál	Ditto.
	106	720	Shakargarh	Ditto.

Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Villages.	Remarks.
			TAHSIL PATHANKOT.	
Andhar	1	2	Dhalotar	Poor proprietors and supply of water insecure owing to Ujh disputes.
	2	3	Bhupálpur	Ditto.
	3	13	Gohla	Ditto.
	4	14	Kar Bhattián	Ditto.
	5	31	Manwúl Mangwál	High and dry *kallar* soil.
	6	80	Kharkhára Tarf Narot	Supply of water very uncertain owing to irrigation disputes with Jammú.
	7	84	Gográn	Ditto.
	8	85	Chak Harirá	Ditto.
	9	88	Kiri Khurd	Ditto.
	10	93	Sharíf Chak	Ditto.
	11	96	Sohawára Khurd	Ditto.
	12	97	Sohawára Kalan	Ditto.
Bet Ravi	13	160	Paharu Chak	Poor Pathán proprietors, and soil high and sandy.
Pathanti	14	161	Dall Balím	Very high and dry for the most part, and poor in the Khál.
	15	165	Sadowál	Has suffered by the cutting off the Khál irrigation.
	16	166	Shahidpur	Ditto.
	17	179	Dibkú	Has suffered by the cutting off the Khál irrigation. Special suspension had to be given here.
Shah Nahri	18	217	Baheri Buzurg	Irrigation supply uncertain owing to Bári Doáb works and *bángar* soil poor Kangar.
	19	248	Gulpur	Suffered from cutting off the Khál irrigation.
	20	249	Samrála	Ditto.
	21	256	Simblí	Ditto.
	22	258	Farida Nagar	Swamped by the Canal in parts.
	23	259	Kataru Chak	Ditto.
	24	260	Chashma	Ditto.
	25	261	Jakrawár	Ditto.
	26	264	Gujrát	Ditto.
	27	265	Bagiál	Ditto.
	28	266	Mamiál	Ditto.
	29	267	Bhímpur	Ditto.
	30	268	Khanni Khin	Ditto.
Kandi	31	278	Gharota Kalán	Very dry and much cut up by ravines on the Dháia.
	32	279	Garhmal...	Very dry and much cut up by ravines on the Dháia and swamped to the west.
	33	280	Nála	Very dry and cut up by ravines.
	34	299	Bárwán	Ditto.
	35	311	Talwára Gujrán	Ditto.
	36	312	Talwára Jattún	Ditto.
	37	319	Naushara Nálbandán	Supply of water from Chakki uncertain and heavy increase taken.
	38	351	Phangálí	Poor Kangar in village below the hills.
	39	353	Nihálpur	Ditto.
	40	354	Jhanjhelí	Ditto.

CIRCLE.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Villages.	REMARKS.
			TAHSIL PATHANKOT.—*concld.*	
HILL	41	373	Gagrolí	Soil very dry and Kangar in the Hills.
	42	374	Phadiál	Ditto.
	43	388	Bharotarwán	Ditto.
	44	389	Athotarwán	Ditto.
	45	394	Hára	Ditto.
	46	396	Tirharí	Ditto.
	47	411	Naloh	Soil very dry and Kangar in the Hills, and in places stiff dry clay.
	48	413	Phágli	Ditto.

NOTE.—The villages in Gurdáspur and Batála marked with an asterisk are those in which the system of fluctuating assessment existed and has been replaced by quadrennial revision subject to re-introduction at any time at the discretion of Government.

No. 107, dated 7th June 1892.

From—C. L. TUPPER, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab and its Dependencies,
To—The Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

WITH reference to your letter No. 222, dated 19th March 1892,* I am directed to convey sanction to the remission of Rs. 13,573 in ten villages of Chak Andar in the Pathánkot Tahsíl, necessitated by the interference with irrigation due to a dispute with the villagers of Jummu territory. The question of the loss of revenue caused to Government by the action of the subjects of Jummu will be considered by the arbitrator, should an arbitrator be appointed to decide the dispute.

* Sub-head 41. File No. 3.

2. Mr. L. Dane, the Settlement Officer of Gurdáspur, has proposed to introduce into 20 villages a system of quadrennial revision of assessment. Five of these are in Chak Andar, one in Chak Pathánte, eleven in the Shah Nahri, and three in the Kandi Circle. His proposals were not approved by the Commissioner or the Financial Commissioner, but in your letter under reply you point out that four of these villages are in arrears, and you suggest that the proposals may be further considered if the Lieutenant-Governor thinks this desirable.

3. I am to say that the Lieutenant-Governor so far agrees with the Commissioner and Financial Commissioner as to think that, under ordinary circumstances, such a proposal would be altogether inadmissible, but the case of some of the villages in question seems to him to be altogether exceptional and to call for exceptional treatment.

4. As regards the villages of Gogran, Chak Harirai, Kiri Khurd and Sharíf Chak, in which remissions of suspended revenue are now granted, and in which it has been necessary to reduce the assessment by from 12 to 19 per cent., His Honor observes that the assessment has been reduced on account of temporary interference with irrigation, and that the diminution of assets will probably continue only until the termination of the pending dispute. That being so, I am to say that it seems only reasonable to provide in some shape or other for a revision of the assessment in the event of the dispute being settled in such a way as to place the irrigation of these villages on a satisfactory footing.

5. The case of the villages bearing the serial numbers 8—18 in the tabular statement in paragraph 10 of Mr. Dane's letter No. 42, dated 27th January 1892, is, if His Honor rightly understands it, an analogous one. His Honor understands that these villages have had to be assessed low on account of canal swamping, which will be obviated by a comprehensive drainage scheme now actually under consideration in the Canal Department, and if that is so, it seems only fair that there should be some means provided for revising the revenue when the scheme is carried out.

6. On the other hand, the reason Mr. Dane gives for his proposal in the case of the villages of Shahidpur and Kotli Mughlán do not seem to warrant any exceptional mode of treatment. Mr. Dane says in regard to these villages that the proprietors are weak and the condition of the villages uncertain. This is a remark which might be made of a considerable number of villages in almost every extensive tract that comes under settlement, and there is no reason apparent why the case should not be dealt with in the ordinary way by making once for all some rough-and-ready allowance for the weakness and uncertainty.

7. This last remark probably applies also to the case of the villages of Noshahra Nalbundhan and Tajpore, which are said to be included in the proposal because the head of the kuhl is uncertain. If the uncertainty is of an ordinary description, and there is no reason to suppose that 4, 8 or 12 years hence it will be anything different from what it is now, there would seem to be no grounds for proposing a quadrennial revision.

8. With these remarks I am to say His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor leaves the matter in the hands of the Financial Commissioner.

Note by Captain J. R. Dunlop-Smith (Deputy Commissioner and Settlement Collector), on the scheme of suspensions and remissions in the Sialkot District.

No. $\frac{36}{C\ II-1}$, dated 3rd January 1895.

From—Lieut.-Col. J. A. L. Montgomery, Offg. Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division,
To—The Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

I have the honor to forward, in original, a report (No. $\frac{389}{S}$, dated 21st November 1894) from the Settlement Collector of Siálkot on the principles which have guided him in dividing the district into "secure" and "insecure" tracts, and giving a scale to be adopted as a general guide in granting suspensions of revenue in cases of calamities of seasons. I also forward two copies of each map for record in your office, as required by paragraph 7, Appendix C to Revenue Circular No. 31. A copy of each map has been previously sent to the Director of Land Records, who has expressed his approval of them. A copy of his reply (No. 2288, dated 25th ultimo) is enclosed.

2. I agree to the classification into "secure" and "insecure" tracts. After a six years' experience of the district as Collector, I can say that the tracts shown as "secure" are really those which are practically secure against drought. The average rainfall of the district is good, and it is extremely rare that the rains fail for two harvests running. Should they so fail, even the so-called secure tracts would require to be carefully watched. The well cattle would feel the strain of over-work and under-feeding; and it would be very necessary to be liberal in advances for the purchase of cattle and seed.

3. I have lately had an opportunity of discussing with Captain Dunlop-Smith his principles to guide the Collector in granting suspensions of revenue. I agree with him that no automatic scale can be blindly followed; and that it is essential that each village to be dealt with should be personally inspected by the Collector, or at least by his Revenue Assistant, either before suspension is granted, or before it is proposed to realize suspended revenue, or to grant a remission. But there is one omission in his proposals. He writes of an average harvested area, but his village note-books nowhere give the actual average area which was taken *in each village* as the basis of the produce estimates. It seems to me that to work upon the proposed scheme it is necessary that such average areas should be entered in each note-book. Mr. Wilson in Shahpur has proposed to strike a new average every four years when a village is brought under special attestation, but it will be sufficient and more correct to work upon the average on which the assessment was based.

4. Another point on which I differ from the Settlement Collector is that of the proportions of revenue to be suspended or realized. In granting suspensions, the proportion to be suspended from each holding should be always either the whole instalment, or $\frac{3}{4}$, or $\frac{1}{2}$, or $\frac{1}{4}$, never less than $\frac{1}{4}$; and in realizing balances of suspended revenue the proportions should always be at similar rates. It is of little use to realize so small a fraction as $\frac{1}{8}$ or $\frac{1}{16}$ of a balance. This will much simplify accounts, and be understood by the people. In granting suspensions for a kharíf crop, or in realizing suspended revenue at the same harvest, it is well to see what the outturn of such crops as sugarcane and cotton is. These are, where grown, the revenue-paying crops. Where they are not grown, I think, it is best, as a rule, to realize suspended revenue from a rabi rather than a kharíf harvest. With these amendments, I recommend Captain Dunlop-Smith's proposals for sanction.

No. 2288, dated 25th December 1894.

From—F. A. Robertson, Esquire, Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab,
To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.

In reply to your No. 3370, dated 13th instant, I have the honor to say that the maps showing secure and insecure areas in the Siálkot district seem to have been very carefully prepared, and to request that the necessary number of copies may be supplied. I note that there are no rakhs or Government waste in the district shown in the maps.

No. $\frac{389}{S}$, dated 21st November 1894.

From—Captain J. R. Dunlop-Smith, Settlement Officer, Siálkot District,
To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.

In continuation of the correspondence ending with Director of Land Records' No. 1471, dated 21st August 1893, calling for a report on the division of this district into secure and insecure areas, I have the honor to submit herewith maps prepared in accordance with Annexure C to Punjab Revenue Circular No. 31. A report, No. 224, dated 8th April 1890, in accordance with paragraphs 1 to 4 of that annexure, has already been submitted to you. The maps now submitted are fresh copies of those submitted with my

No. 224 of 28th April 1890, as the latter were prepared before the alterations in the limits of assessment circles sanctioned in the orders received on the various assessment reports. The village boundaries also are more accurately shown in the new maps than in the old. In other respects the maps are identical.

2. The Siálkot District may be described as on the whole fairly secure, as the average annual rainfall varies from 41 inches at the district head-quarters to 27 inches at the Raya tahsíl. The present classification of secure and insecure estates in the Siálkot District is, therefore, not of great importance. I have found some difficulty in determining what standard of security it would be proper to apply in separating the estates of the district into secure and insecure. The standard I have adopted has been arrived at by, a consideration of two facts—

(*a*) the proportion of well-irrigated area, and

(*b*) the average annual rainfall.

I have not taken into account the amount of area at present fed by the reservoirs and cuts belonging to the irrigation system lately organized by the district authorities. The Degh, which is the main factor in this system, is notoriously capricious, and may change its course any day, and a weak revenue administration might result in the present irrigation works falling out of repair.

3. I have, therefore, after excluding all estates subject to a fluctuating assessment, classed as secure only (*a*) those whose well-irrigated area is over 50 per cent. of the total cultivated area, and (*b*) those where the average annual rainfall exceeds 27 inches. I have included in the "secure" portion the Darp tract, which is split up between the three tahsíls of Zafarwál, Raya and Pasrúr, as its predominent soil is singularly retentive of moisture and produces good crops with very little rain.

4. I will now discuss my classification of the villages by tahsíls. In Zafarwál I have classed as secure all the Dosáhi, Darp and Chárwa circles, and only such villages of the Jatátar circle as have over 50 per cent. of their cultivated area irrigated by wells. The result is, that 48 villages, or 9 per cent. of the total number, representing 14 per cent. of the cultivated acreage of the tahsíl, are shown as insecure.

5. In Raya, the Darp circle has been classed as secure. In the Dokandi circle, 51 villages out of 107, or 47 per cent., and in the Kálar, 22 out of 116, or 19 per cent., have been shown as insecure. As a matter of fact this classification is somewhat misleading, seeing that at present the Dokándi possesses the elements of stability in a much higher degree than the Kálar. Were, however, the course of the Degh to materially alter, the relative positions of these two circles would be reversed.

6. In the Pasrúr tahsíl, one village in the Kálar circle and 13 in the Charkhri, or 11 per cent. of the total, have been classed as insecure. The largest proportion of insecure villages is in the Pasrúr circle, which occupies the triangular high dorsal tract with *Bharári* soil, where the area dependent on rain is 73 per cent. of the total under cultivation. The number of insecure estates in this circle is 106, amounting to 85 per cent. of the total.

7. In the Siálkot tahsíl I have classed as secure all estates in the Bajwát and Niánda circles and all those in the Charkhari and Bharári circles which are situated to the north of the roads leading from Siálkot to Gurdáspur and Wazírabad. The villages in the Bharári circle to the north of this line depend almost entirely on rain for their crops, and when the rains in any season fail there is practically no harvest. But anything like a complete failure of rain for two successive harvests is practically unknown in this region. In the remaining half of the Charkhari circle I have classed 6 estates, or 3 per cent. of the whole, as insecure, and in the Bharári 53, or 30 per cent. of the whole. All these villages are situated on the high dorsal tract referred to in the previous paragraph, and lie immediately to the west of the insecure villages of the Pasrúr circle.

8. In Daska only 17 estates are shown as insecure. They are all situated in the inferior part of the Bet Bela circle between the Chenáb and the North-Western Railway line.

9. In the following table the results of the classification described above are given in statistical form :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Tahsil.	Total number of villages.	*Villages subject to annual change in assessment on account of di-alluvion.*		*Secure villages.*		*Insecure villages.*	
		Actual.	Per cent. on column 2.	Actual.	Per cent. on column 2.	Actual.	Per cent. on column 2.
Zafarwál	535	53	10	434	81	48	9
Raya	492	82	17	337	68	73	15
Pasrúr	474	105	22	249	53	120	25
Siálkot	681	141	21	481	70	59	9
Daska	343	16	5	310	90	17	5
District	2,525	397	16	1,811	72	317	12

It will be seen that Pasrúr is the least secure of the five tahsíls, but even there the number of insecure estates is only slightly over a quarter of the total, while over the district as a whole only 13 per cent. of the total are insecure.

10. In paragraph 9 of Annexure C, I am instructed to submit "a scheme for the working of suspensions occasioned by drought, periodical floods and other causes." The estates subject to an annual revision of assessment on account of the action of rivers and streams have been excluded from the accompanying lists of insecure estates, although in some parts they are less secure than the villages of any other tract in the district. But the treatment of the dialluvial tracts has already been fully provided for. The following remarks, therefore, must not be taken as applying to them.

11. As explained in paragraph 10 of Annexure C "no automatic adjustment of suspensions to the degree of failure of crops could be made to work," and I would add that no sliding scale of relief would be necessarily applicable to each individual village in the same distressed tract, or to the same village at different harvests when the failure of crops is sufficiently marked to call for relief. Any proposals for suspensions must be the result of a careful inspection of the harvest by the Collector or his Revenue Assistant and a consideration of the past revenue history and existing economic condition of each individual estate. In this district full notes have been made in the English village note-books to guide officers who may have to deal in the future with the revenue administration in seasons of scarcity. These notes, supplemented by a personal inspection of the failed crops, will form a much more sound basis for proposals for suspensions than any such as is contemplated in the circular. And I would lay special stress on the necessity for such personal inquiries being made only by the Collector himself or by the Revenue Assistant Collector. They should never be left to Tahsíldárs who, even if they do not delegate this important duty to field kánúngos, generally consider that the full realization of the Government demand in all seasons and under all circumstances is the strongest proof they can give of their own executive ability.

12. Bearing this principle in mind, and the fact that the rabi is the more important harvest in this district, I would propose the following general scheme. If the autumn or winter rains altogether fail, or if, even with a fair amount of rain, the harvested area falls short of the average in any tract by one-fifth, it will be necessary for the Collector to carefully examine into all the circumstances. It will not be sufficient to wait for the people to take the initiative by filing petitions, or for the Tahsíldár to report of his own motion. As a rule the people dislike suspensions, and prefer to borrow at ruinous rates of interest. A total failure of rain in the kharíf season is almost unknown in Siálkot, and ordinarily it will not be necessary to propose suspensions of the kharíf demand should the rainfall be slight. It will probably be necessary, however, for the Collector to grant liberal *takávi* advances for the purchase of cattle and seed. Times of scarcity are invariably felt by the cattle first, and a generous policy in this direction may often prevent the necessity for suspensions later on.

13. Should, however, a kharíf as described in the preceding paragraph be followed by a poor outlook for the rabi, relief will certainly be required. This should take the form of a suspension of the whole of the second kharíf instalment which amounts to one-fourth of the total demand, and is due on the 15th February. Should the failure of rain last right through the rabi, then at least three-quarters of the rabi demand also should be suspended. Only in exceptional cases will it be necessary to suspend the whole rabi demand.

14. If there has been a moderate kharíf harvest, and the failure is confined to the rabi, and if *takávi* advances for purchase of cattle and seed will not meet the necessities of the position, a suspension of half the rabi demand will generally be sufficient. In such a case, however, if the area under fodder crops in the previous kharíf has been below the average, and if that under cane has been abnormally small, it may be necessary to suspend three-quarters of the demand.

15. The recovery of suspension balances must always be carefully made. Orders prescribing the date of recovery and the proportion of the balance to be realized should not be passed until the Collector or his Revenue Assistant has again personally inspected the villages affected. Personal inquiries are as necessary in this case as they are in formulating proposals for suspension.

16. The balance of kharíf suspensions should never be realized in full at the next rabi, even should that prove a bumper harvest. Ordinarily, that is, when the following rabi is an average harvest, it will be quite sufficient to recover one-half, leaving one-fourth or one-eighth to be collected in the following kharíf, and the remaining fourth or three-eighths to be collected in the next rabi should these two harvests not fall much below the average. It is desirable to spread the recovery of these balances over as many harvests as possible, but at the same time it must not be forgotten that the people dislike intensely to have outstanding arrears of revenue. It is always easier for the people to pay these balances in the rabi than in the kharíf, but it would be unwise to allow any one fairly good harvest to pass without realizing part of the arrears, and so give rise to the idea that these had been altogether remitted.

17. These remarks apply also to the recovery of the rabi suspensions. If the following kharíf is an average harvest, or even above the average, never more than one-eighth of the balance should be recovered; and in the following rabi, if average, only one-fourth, or if above average, one-half.

18. To sum up:—

(a) Thirteen per cent. of the estates in the Siálkot district are "insecure," but this classification, which has been based on general considerations, some of which are more or less arbitrary, is not meant to relieve future District Officers of the necessity of carefully considering the condition of the "secure" tracts also in a season of scarcity.

(b) Proposals for suspension and orders for the recovery of balances must be based on a personal enquiry into the circumstances of each individual village.

(c) The amount of suspension should be either one-half, three-quarters, or the whole of the revenue due from the particular harvest.

(d) Recovery of balances should be gradual, and the amount to be recovered should be one-sixteenth, one-eighth, one-fourth, or, in exceptional cases, one-half of the whole.

19. The classification of each estate as "secure" or "insecure" is being entered by me in the English village note-books. This work will be completed before the end of settlement operations in this district.

List of Insecure Villages in the Siálkot District.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tahsíl.	Assessment Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Village.	REMARKS.
Daska ...	Bet Bela ...	1	10	Kotha Chishtián.	
		2	11	Bahrúpgarh Bela.	
		3	12	Habíbpur.	
		4	13	Kot Kaura.	
		5	14	Jamálpur.	
		6	15	Hussainpur.	
		7	16	Randhír.	
		8	17	Pírkot.	
		9	18	Chauke Kalán.	
		10	19	Bahrúpgarh.	
		11	29	Rakh Gulábgarh.	
		12	30	Kishengarh.	
		13	31(a)	Kot Dogra.	
		14	33	Bela Uftáda.	
		15	34	Kot Dína.	
		16	9	Májra Khás.	
		17	9(a)	Bahrúpgarh.	
Pasrúr ...	Kálar ...	1	398	Sáib.	
	Charkhari ...	1	52	Bhullar.	
		2	49	Fakíránwáli.	
		3	51	Kul Báiwa.	
		4	51(a)	Kotli Rám Dás.	
		5	83	Chak Lawere.	
		6	82	Kamála.	
		7	80	Chak Randháwa.	
		8	81	Lawere.	
		9	96	Randháwa.	
		10	93	Thatti.	
		11	98	Metle.	
		12	97	Jakhar.	
		13	99	Panwána.	
	Pasrúr ...	1	100	Serái Shah Fatta.	
		2	101	Málípur.	
		3	102	Rámke.	
		4	103	Ghurka.	
		5	104	Bhagat.	
		6	105	Der Bechirágh.	

List of Insecure Villages in the Siálkot District—continued.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tahsil.	Assessment Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Village.	REMARKS.
Pasrúr—*contd.*	Pasrúr—*contd.*	7	106	Ausáhke.	
		8	107	Sabalpur.	
		9	108	Kot Rái.	
		10	108(*a*)	Chuharke.	
		11	109	Chak Sabalpur.	
		12	110	Naukrián.	
		13	111	Khichián Bhattián.	
		14	113	Málo Patiál.	
		15	114	Búreke.	
		16	115	Kálúwáli.	
		17	116	Naul.	
		18	117	Kot Kalál.	
		19	118	Lohár.	
		20	119	Mardána.	
		21	121	Táwriánwála.	
		22	123	Hájípur.	
		23	124	Músapur.	
		24	124 (*a*)	Sahte.	
		25	124 (*b*)	Kotli Bájwa.	
		26	125	Nangal Rám Chand.	
		27	200	Sunarián.	
		28	112	Serái Bhái Karm Singh.	
		29	201	Arázi Patti Dohatta.	
		30	199	Pasrúr.	
		31	126	Saidullapur.	
		32	127	Mirza Bájwa.	
		33	128	Dullanwáli.	
		34	129	Nangal Hasri.	
		35	130	Nála.	
		36	131	Bakhtpur.	
		37	132	Takipur.	
		38	133	Chandar.	
		39	134	Nune.	
		40	135	Odangal.	
		41	136	Gujar Goraya.	
		42	137	Bagargil.	
		43	138	Bakápur.	
		44	139	Básiwála.	
		45	140	Jetogil.	
		46	141	Tawánán.	
		47	142	Bhullar.	
		48	142 (*a*)	Chak Máli.	
		49	142 (*b*)	Chak Matu.	
		50	142 (*c*)	Chak Wirk.	
		51	143	Kotli Bhuta.	
		52	144	Basra.	
		53	155	Hussa Jája.	
		54	156	Hajra.	
		55	157	Lodi Jája.	
		56	159	Ratta Jathaul.	
		57	160	Jeowáli.	
		58	161	Lohéránwáli.	
		59	162	Khaira.	
		60	163	Garar.	
		61	164	Bariár.	
		62	165	Udoke.	
		63	167	Alike.	
		64	168	Mohamadwáli.	
		65	169	Nathu Ujla.	
		66	170	Mahadipur.	
		67	173	Chak Hushiára.	
		68	174	Dádúwáli.	
		69	175	Gurz Bardár.	
		70	176	Táib Bhutta.	
		71	177	Bakhtpur.	
		72	178	Mahár.	

List of Insecure Villages in the Siálkot District—continued.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tahsíl.	Assessment Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Village.	Remarks.
Pasrúr—*concld.*	Pasrúr—*concld.*	73	179	Kalálwála.	
		74	180	Malpur.	
		75	181	Bhárath.	
		76	182	Doburji Bájwa.	
		77	186	Naushahra.	
		78	185	Haibatpur.	
		79	184	Daulatpur.	
		80	187	Talwandi.	
		81	188	Kahliánwáli.	
		82	189	Dádu Bájwa.	
		83	189 (*a*)	Budhián.	
		84	190	Sahiánwáli.	
		85	191	Harchandpur.	
		86	192	Bhullar.	
		87	193	Charar.	
		88	194	Doburji Rám Chand.	
		89	195	Lálu Purána.	
		90	196	Nauglián.	
		91	196 (*a*)	Isháqábad.	
		92	197	Mal Lálu.	
		93	198	Doburji Wairán.	
		94	206	Chand.	
		95	207	Sohdián.	
		96	205	Jhans.	
		97	208	Kamálpur Chishtián.	
		98	204	Alkara.	
		99	202	Malhoke.	
		100	203	Chohán.	
		101	209	Balaggan.	
		102	209 (*a*)	Dhir.	
		103	209 (*b*)	Kesorái.	
		104	209 (*c*)	Hargan.	
		105	210	Chaiewáli.	
		106	211	Dugri Hundlán.	
Siálkot ...	Bharári ...	1	564	Jodhewáli.	
		2	566	Dhíra Sanda.	
		3	566 (*a*)	Lakhanpur.	
		4	566 (*b*)	Matháuwála.	
		5	565	Chak Nawán.	
		6	534	Ratta.	
		7	535	Wadiánwáli.	
		8	535 (*a*)	Chak Lohárán.	
		9	536	Chandar.	
		10	537	Jajje.	
		11	540	Dhunda.	
		12	541	Kot Rájkaur.	
		13	542	Kotli Rájkaur.	
		14	543	Athwál.	
		15	544	Wanjal.	
		16	546	Nidoke.	
		17	558	Pathánwáli.	
		18	560	Kes.	
		19	559	Sandrána.	
		20	567	Guna Khurd.	
		21	573	Parágpur.	
		22	574	Chhauni Salehrián.	
		23	575	Kotli Harnaráin.	
		24	577	Gujránwála.	
		25	579	Sattowáli.	
		26	578	Kot Mandiánwála.	
		27	580	Dhudíánwáli.	
		28	581	Dhillu Ghází.	
		29	582	Walána.	
		30	583	Kohár.	
		31	584	Ráju.	

List of Insecure Villages in the Siálkot District—continued.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tahsíl.	Assessment Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Village.	REMARKS.
Siálkot—*concld.*	Bharári--*concld.*	32	589	Mánowáli.	
		33	590	Cháhal.	
		34	591	Taunk.	
		35	588	Budhúpur.	
		36	588(*a*)	Mainewáli.	
		37	587	Sahu Chak.	
		38	586	Gowardhanpur.	
		39	585	Gurhi.	
		40	569	Chhichhariáli.	
		41	570	Wario.	
		42	572	Mandiánwála.	
		43	571	Sahowáli.	
		44	568	Nizámdínpur.	
		45	568(*a*)	Bega Bájwa.	
		46	568(*b*)	Dhála.	
		47	568(*c*)	Gachhe.	
		48	568(*e*)	Jhandeka Maira.	
		49	568(*g*)	Tundgarh.	
		50	568(*f*)	Pákharpur.	
		51	539	Bharoke.	
		52	539(*a*)	Jháwar.	
		53	538	Sidhárwáli.	
	Charkhari ...	1	251	Rachhára.	
		2	250	Panjgaráin.	
		3	249	Mand.	
		4	256	Partanwáli.	
		5	287	Bhikho Chhor.	
		6	289	Doburji.	
Raya ...	Dokandi ...	1	38(*a*)	Bhangála.	
		2	38(*b*)	Thalli Mallián.	
		3	37	Shamsa.	
		4	36	Jiwan Goraya.	
		5	45	Talwára.	
		6	46	Ahdipur.	
		7	47	Bodhi Mallián.	
		8	48	Dhanánwáli.	
		9	50	Kot Ruldu.	
		10	53	Kotli Nathu Malli.	
		11	53(*a*)	Alipur.	
		12	55	Giddián.	
		13	54	Philowáli.	
		14	58	Nangal Machhána.	
		15	60	Hallowál.	
		16	82	Bálíke Kalán.	
		17	65	Gopálpur.	
		18	81	Cháharke.	
		19	80	Talwandi Bhindrán.	
		20	79	Chak Cháharke.	
		21	78	Adoke.	
		22	66	Gulla Moharán.	
		23	67	Khokharwáli.	
		24	68	Akálgarh.	
		25	69	Nangal Sáhu.	
		26	70	Puhla.	
		27	71	Moghola.	
		28	72	Chandarke.	
		29	74	Miánwáli.	
		30	73	Bohgal Najár.	
		31	75	Dhilli.	
		32	77	Báth.	
		33	76	Dátewál.	
		34	89	Jáda.	
		35	90	Udbowáli.	
		36	88	Mohanwáli.	

List of Insecure Villages in the Siálkot District—continued.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tahsíl.	Assessment Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Village.	REMARKS.
Raya—*concld.*	Dokandi—*concld.*	37	87	Chak Datewál.	
		38	84	Kahola.	
		39	86	Kotli Becharágh.	
		40	95	Malúkpur.	
		41	94	Kang.	
		42	91(*a*)	Dulloána.	
		43	91	Manjitor.	
		44	93	Bhittewáli.	
		45	92	Othián.	
		46	96	Thetharwáli.	
		47	85	Chak Thetharwáli.	
		48	97	Khára.	
		49	97(*a*)	Chak Umr.	
		50	97(*b*)	Mega.	
		51	83	Shekhpura.	
	Kálar ...	1	250	Ladhar Karm Singh.	
		2	251	Rangepur.	
		3	252	Lohán.	
		4	253	Aino Bájwa.	
		5	256	Budda Dhola.	
		6	257	Ladhar.	
		7	258	Tatte.	
		8	259	Bhago Jhinwari.	
		9	260	Chak Rattián.	
		10	278	Kalandarbad.	
		11	297	Machhána.	
		12	299	Mateke.	
		13	304	Kals Kotli.	
		14	305	Narang Chána.	
		15	306	Kang.	
		16	307	Tharpál.	
		17	308	Raya.	
		18	311	Báthánwála.	
		19	312	Kila Rája Singh.	
		20	313	Malikpur.	
		21	313(*b*)	Mukímpur.	
		22	317	Nangal Wáris Khan.	
Zafarwál ...	Jatátar ...	1	153	Gullewáli.	
		2	157	Jallowáli.	
		3	152	Kakhánwáli.	
		4	144(*a*)	Jhátike.	
		5	203	Dogránwáli.	
		6	214	Hamídpur.	
		7	213	Khambe.	
		8	231	Kotli Sayadán.	
		9	230	Rájián.	
		10	229	Kamálpur.	
		11	215	Chowinda.	
		12	191	Buttar Salij Dín.	
		13	181	Mundeke.	
		14	163	Lálewáli.	
		15	166	Badiána.	
		16	167	Saidpur Becharágh.	
		17	168	Megha.	
		18	169	Kaulpur.	
		19	171	Dhilwán.	
		20	172	Nathu Kaler.	
		21	170	Sohal.	
		22	176	Nawáde.	
		23	175	Dáo.	
		24	175(*a*)	Ghoga.	
		25	177	Kot Dhingránwáli.	
		26	174	Dhingránwáli.	
		27	173	Kot Kalál.	

List of Insecure Villages in the Siálkot District—concluded.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tahsíl.	Assessment Circle.	Serial No.	Assessment No.	Villages.	Remarks.
Zafarwál—*concluded.*	Jatátar—*concld.*	28	185	Abdáli.	
		29	184	Sohián.	
		30	178	Bathe.	
		31	179	Púral Kaler.	
		32	186	Lange.	
		33	188	Manjke.	
		34	190	Khurpa.	
		35	189	Bháganián.	
		36	216	Sárangpur.	
		37	217	Lippewáli.	
		38	218	Matteke.	
		39	221	Jájopur.	
		40	221(*a*)	Maddopur.	
		41	220	Golu Kot.	
		42	219	Kádíánwáli.	
		43	225	Dhar Káli.	
		44	222	Arki.	
		45	223	Isa.	
		46	224	Chak Rája.	
		47	132	Ráipur.	
		48	135	Khánpur Syadán.	

Correspondence relating to classification of secure and insecure areas and adoption of a scale for remissions and suspensions in the Gujranwala District.

No. 439/C. II. I., dated 18th February 1895.

From—S. S. Thorburn, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division,
To—The Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

1. Deputy Commissioner, Gujránwála's No. 274, dated 12th November 1894.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Gujránwála's No. 263, dated 5th February 1895, and enclosure.

I have the honor to forward in original the letters marginally noted, containing a set of rules drawn up by Mr. O'Dwyer, Deputy Commissioner of Gujránwála, regarding the classification of areas and scale to be adopted as a general guide in granting suspensions of revenue in case of calamities of season. I also forward two copies of the district map for record in your office as required by paragraph 7, Appendix C to Revenue Circular No. 31. A copy of the map has also been sent to the Director of Land Records, who has approved of it, as appears from his No. 94, dated 14th ultimo, to the Deputy Commissioner, a copy of which is enclosed.

2. Although the rules now submitted are in greater detail than is perhaps necessary, they will be excellent guides for inexperienced Deputy Commissioners. A good deal will, however, depend on the way Patwáris make their entries under Rule 1.

3. I suggest that if approved the rules be printed and bound up with the Final Settlement Report of the district as an appendix. They should also be translated into Vernacular, and a copy given to all Revenue officials of the district including Patwárís.

No. 94, dated 14th January 1895.

From—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab,
To—The Deputy Commissioner, Gujránwála.

In reply to your No. 1789, dated 6th December 1894, I have the honor to say that under the circumstances the district map received with your letter quoted above will suffice. Five copies of it in all are required.

Maps of tracing cloth of Tahsíls Háfizabad and Wazirabad were received with your office No. 33, dated 17th February 1890, and returned to you while you were Settlement officer for the preparation of four copies, and to carry out the instructions contained in paragraphs 5 to 11 of annexure C to Revenue Circular No. 31, with my No. 283, dated 16th February 1891.

No. 274, dated 12th November 1894.

From—M. F. O'Dwyer, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Gujránwála,
To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.

With reference to the instruction contained in annexure C to Revenue Circular No. 31 (volume I, pages 229—231), I have now the honor to submit—

(a) A map showing "secure" and "insecure" areas as now classified by me.

(b) Proposals as to the scale to be adopted in granting suspensions and remissions in "insecure" tracts, with a note explaining the grounds of the proposals. Copies of correspondence with the Director of Land Records on the subject are also forwarded, from which you will see that the map is to be submitted through him, and the proposals for suspensions to the Financial Commissioner direct.

2. The general principles on which I have based my proposals are described in paragraphs 208—213 of the Final Settlement Report, and the revenue history of the district for the last 25 years, in so far as it bears on the present question, has been summarised in paragraphs 44—48. As the report is now being reviewed by you, you may find the present a suitable opportunity for considering the subsidiary question of the circumstances under which suspensions are likely to be required and the extent to which they should be granted, and perhaps the Financial Commissioner will deal with the case in connection with the Final Report.

3. Taking the "estate" as the unit, I have in the Gujránwála and Wazirabad Tahsíls—see paragraph 208 Final Report—classified as "secure" all estates in which the irrigated area exceeds 50 per cent. of the total cultivation. The figures in Assessment Statement B, on which the village assessments were based, have been taken as the basis of the calculation; but as the recorded 'cháhi' area is often exaggerated, owing to errors

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3. Taking the "estate" as the unit, I have in the Gujránwála and Wazirabad Tahsíls—see paragraph 208 Final Report—classified as "secure" all estates in which the irrigated area exceeds 50 per cent. of the total cultivation. The figures in Assessment [illegible]ment B, on which the village assessments were based, have been taken as the basis [illegible]lation; but as the recorded 'cháhi' area is often exaggerated, owing to errors

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3. Taking the "estate" as the unit, I have in the Gujránwála and Wazirabad Tahsíls—see paragraph 208 Final Report—classified as "secure" all estates in which the irrigated area exceeds 50 per cent. of the total cultivation. The figures in Assessment Statement B, on which the village assessments were based, have been taken as the basis of the calculation; but as the recorded 'cháhi' area is often exaggerated, owing to errors

of classification or the accidents of survey, I have assumed 40 acres as the maxim[um] area which a well can safeguard, and where the recorded 'cháhi' area of a village gi[ves] an average of over 40 acres per well, I have reduced it accordingly for the purpose [of] this classification.

4. Applying this test, we find—

(1).—In Tahsíl Gujránwála, out of 448 estates, only 127 are "insecure," *viz.* :-

	Insecure.	Secure.	Total.
Charkhari	11	193	204
Bangar	54	115	169
Adjoining Bár	62	13	75
Total	127	321	448

so that practically the whole of the Charkhari and over two-thirds of the Bang[ar] villages are "secure," while over 80 per cent. of the adjoining Bár estates ar[e] "insecure." I may add that in the Bangar I have shown as "insecure" few villages the 'cháhi' area of which exceeds half the total cultivation, bu[t] which are often damaged by floods.

(2)—In Tahsíl Wazirabad only 46 estates out of 267 are "insecure," *viz.* :—

	Insecure.	Secure.	Total.
Charkhari	*Nil*	115	115
Bangar	5	80	85
Chenáb	41	26	67
Total ...	46	221	267

so that the Charkhari circle is completely and the Bangar practically "secure," while 60 per cent. of the Chenáb villages are "insecure." With reference to paragraph 2 of annexure C, it is perhaps hardly necessary to include the Chenáb circle. The estates in this circle shown as "insecure" are those in which the 'chahi' area is less than half of the sailába—there is practically no baráni—but the 'cháhi' portions of such estates are amply protected by wells, while the sailába or inundated lands now come under a sufficiently elastic system of dilluvion assessment. However, I have thought it as well to include this tract both here and in Háfizabad so as to give a complete synopsis for the tahsíl in each case.

5. Coming now to the tract embraced in the old Háfizabad Tahsíl and the present Háfizabad and Khángah Dográn Tahsíls, we have four assessment circles to deal with—

(1) Chenáb.

(2) Adjoining Bár.

(3) Bár.

(4) Bangar.

In classifying the Chenáb and adjoining Bár villages I have worked on the same lines as in the corresponding circles of Wazirabad and Gujránwála, to which they approximate closely as regards conditions of soil, agriculture, rainfall, &c.

In the Bár and Bangar I found it was impossible to adopt any hard-and-fast rule—see remarks in paragraph 211, Final Report, as regards Bangar.

A Bangar village with 80 per cent. of its cultivation 'cháhi' might be decidedly insecure, owing to the inferiority of the soil, its inability to stand a drought, weakness of proprietary body, desertion of tenants on failure of rains, &c., &c.

Similarly, a Bár village might be shown with a large proportion of well and canal irrigation, but the water may be 50 or 60 feet deep, or the canal irrigation may be largely tentative, and fluctuating largely from year to year. In dealing, therefore, with these two circles I had to fall back on my local knowledge of each estate, using the statistics as a guide and corrective rather than as a basis for classification. It has also to be borne in mind that agriculture in these circles, as well as in the adjoining Bár is in a transitive stage, owing to the extension of canal irrigation. Estates now classed as "insecure" may have their cultivation fully safeguarded a few years hence, by the extension of existing 'canal distributaries' or the construction of the Gugera Branch, and any classification now made must therefore be regarded as purely temporary.

6. Subject to the above explanations, the result of the classification in this tract was as follows :—

		Insecure.	*Secure.*	*Total.*
Chenáb	... ...	60	52	112
Adjoining Bár	... ...	69	33	102
Bár	... ...	83	79	162
Bangar	... ...	56	76	132
	Total	268	240	508

so that 53 per cent. of the estates are "insecure" and 47 per cent. "secure."

Combining the figures for the other tahsils, the result for the whole district is as follows :—

		Insecure.	*Secure.*	*Total.*
Gujránwála	... ...	127	321	448
Wazirabad	... ...	46	221	267
Háfizábad	... ...	268	240	508
	Total ...	441	782	1,223

In other words, 36 per cent. of the estates are "insecure," 64 per cent. "secure."

7. It now remains to propose a scale to be used as a guide in granting suspensions in the "insecure" areas for failure of crops due to drought, floods, &c. I have already indicated the general lines on which I think suspensions should be granted in paragraphs 209—212 of the Final Report, and I would here again lay stress on the fact that if a drought is prolonged over more than two harvests the "secure" tracts in Gujránwála and Wazirabad will need relief quite as urgently as any other part of the district. The only villages that could withstand such a crisis would be those getting canal water for over half of their cultivation and that in abundance, and possibly some of the more highly developed estates in the Wazirabad and Gujránwála Charkhari circles.

8. It is difficult to define in advance the circumstances under which, and the extent to which, suspensions will be required. There are many contingencies which cannot be foreseen, *e. g.*, a drought may be aggravated by a severe epidemic of cattle disease, or its effects may be mitigated by preceding good harvests, the cheapness of food-grains, or *vice versa* ; and the only person in a position to determine how such influences may affect the revenue-paying capabilities of the zamíndárs in a bad harvest is the Collector for the time being, who will be in possession of the advice of the Tahsíldárs and the opinions of the leading agriculturists. There is the danger that any rules now laid down may fetter the discretion of the Collector hereafter, and, as far as my own opinion goes, I am decidedly opposed to any attempt to fix an automatic scale in advance, which cannot possibly take account of the innumerable local variations which go to aggravate or mitigate the effects of an agricultural calamity. It will, therefore, be understood that the rough rules formulated are purely suggestions based on my own personal views and experience.

9. They are as follows :—

I.—If in an "insecure" village or tract the kharíf crop is a failure, which may be taken to mean that it is less than half of the "normal" area, *i. e.*, less than half of the average kharíf area as ascertained for re-assessment and shown in the village note-book, no suspensions will ordinarily be required, unless preceding harvests have been much below average, unless food-stocks have been reduced, and the zamíndárs find difficulty in procuring seed grain.

II.—If the "failure" (as above defined) of the kharíf is followed, owing to deficiency of autumn or winter rains, by a bad rabi, then relief should ordinarily be given. If the deficiency in both harvests is 50 per cent. or more as compared with the data, *i. e.*, average area of crops grown on which the assessment was based, then one-half, three-fourths, or all of the rabi instalment should be suspended according to circumstances, account being taken of the scarcity of fodder, condition of the cattle, state of water in the wells, migration of agriculturists, price of food-grains, &c., &c., in determining the proportion to be suspended.

III.—If the drought or other agricultural calamity, *e. g.*, floods, continues till the following kharíf, then wholesale suspension should be given to the "insecure" tracts, *e. g.*, if the kharíf is again 50 per cent. below the normal in a village, and there has been a deficiency of 50 per cent. in the combined result of the two previous harvests, the whole demand should be suspended.

In such cases, too, it will be found advisable to extend relief to the "secure" villages, half or more of the demand being suspended according to circumstances.

IV.—If the ensuing harvest, *i.e.* the rabi, is again unfavourably affected by the drought or by floods, then the condition of all the "insecure" estates and of all the "secure" estates outside the Charkhari circles of Wazirabad and Gujránwála should be thoroughly overhauled in the light of the statistics of the previous three harvests, and half, three-fourths or all of the demand again suspended, it being borne in mind that the cumulative effect of successive bad harvests is a strong reason for showing greater consideration than the results of the particular harvest would appear to warrant.

V.—To secure that suspensions should be of benefit to the people, they should be announced before the zamindárs are forced to borrow to meet the impending demand, and before the lambardár begins to collect. The general character of the kharíf harvest will have declared itself by the 15th September, of the rabi by 15th February; and when it is anticipated that suspensions will be required, the Tahsíldár should send in his reports and proposals for the kharíf before the end of September, for the rabi before the end of February. The Collector or officer deputed by him will thus be in a position to inspect the villages during the crop inspections, and the results of the *girdawári* will enable the Collector to check the proposals and come to a decision as to the relief called for while the crop is still on the ground.

VI.—In calculating the deficiency of the crop, area and outturn should be considered. The standard of area to be taken is not that of the previous year or years, but that on which the assessment, fixed or fluctuating, was based, as shown in the village note-book. Account should also be taken not only of the area of crops failed and harvested, but of their kind. Thus in the kharíf, cane and cotton are grown chiefly to sell, maize for winter food, while *jowár, moth,* &c, are largely fodder crops and of comparatively little value. The failure of the cane and cotton may therefore seriously cripple the revenue-paying power of a village, even though large areas of *jowár, moth,* &c., may have been harvested,

VII.—Where revenue has once been suspended, no attempt should be made to realize it till a good harvest has been *reaped* and garnered. The practice of realizing after heavy rain gives *promise* of a good crop is to be deprecated. The zamindár is not in a position to pay without borrowing till he has got in his harvest. Hence, the suspended revenue should not be realized till the instalment *for a successful harvest* falls due.

VIII.—As a rule, suspended revenue should be realized, as far as possible, only when there is a successful rabi. The rabi is the more important and money-getting crop. In the adjoining Bár and Bár circles, the prosperity of which depends chiefly on their reaping a large area of *baráni* crops in the rabi, this rule should be particularly adhered to.

IX.—No matter how successful the harvest, no attempt should be made to realize more than one suspended instalment along with the ordinary demand. To do more will cripple the zamíndár just when he needs breathing time to recover himself, purchase bullocks, lay by a stock for food, seed grain, &c.

X.—Before proposing suspensions or remissions for damage done by floods, the prospects of the succeeding harvest should be taken into consideration as it often happens that the kharíf crop, which is relatively unimportant in alluvial villages, is damaged by high floods, but these may be so fertilising or so beneficial for rabi sowings that the loss is more than made up in the rabi. The remarks in the village note-book should also be referred to as showing whether the estate was leniently assessed to allow for periodic floods.

XI.—When remissions are proposed for the loss of a crop in any particular harvest, whether by hail, floods or locusts, the remission should ordinarily cover the demand for the year on the fields affected, or the demand for the harvest on the holdings affected. Double-cropping in this district is very rare, and the zamíndár looks to his single crop, in whatever harvest grown, to meet the demand for both harvests. This rule is also necessary in the interests of the State revenue. A village may have elected to pay half the annual demand in the kharíf while the kharíf crop may be of slight importance from a revenue-paying point of view compared with the rabi. Suppose their relative importance to be kharíf one-fifth, rabi four-fifths. The entire failure of the kharíf would not justify the suspension or remission of half the annual demand.

10.* The latter two rules may appear to travel beyond the subject under discussion, but I have inserted them here, as I have seen what I believe to be serious mistakes arise from their being overlooked.

11. The above rules generally may seem rather vague, but I do not feel myself in a position to formulate anything more definite. Their object, as already stated, is rather to direct the Collector's attention to the points to be kept in view, and the lines on which the enquiry should be made, than in any way to interfere with his discretion.

No. 263, dated 5th February 1895.

From—M. F. O'Dwyer, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Gujránwála,

To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.

In compliance with your No. $\frac{282}{\text{CII—I.}}$, dated 28th ultimo, I have the honor to submit, in a consolidated form, my proposals for suspensions of revenue on insecure tracts of the Gujránwála District, to be substituted for those attached to paragraph 9 of my letter No. 274, dated 12th November 1894, and to say that paragraphs 1 to 8 and paragraph 10 of the above-quoted letter may stand unaltered. And it will be unnecessary to refer to any other correspondence beyond that letter as now altered and the final report.

Rules to be substituted for those attached to paragraph 9 of Deputy Commissioner Gujránwála's No. 274, dated 12th November 1894.

PARA. 9. I.—That every harvest the patwári should note in the remarks column of the crop abstract—

(1) Whether the area cropped is above, below or about average. The average, however, should be that taken at settlement, not a new average struck every four years. We are dealing in this district with fixed assessments, and the standard of comparison should be the crop figures when that assessment was imposed.

(2) Whether the outturn per acre is above, below or about average.

(3) The condition of the grass and of the cattle.

(4) The revenue instalment and its incidence per acre of cropped area.

I A.—If in an "insecure" village or tract the kharíf crop is a failure—which may be taken to mean that it is less than half of the "normal" area, *i. e.*, less than half of the average kharíf area as ascertained for re-assessment and shown in the village note-book—no suspensions will ordinarily be required, unless preceding harvests have been much below average, unless food-stocks have been reduced, and the zamíndárs find difficulty in procuring seed grain.

II.—If the failure (as above defined) of the kharíf is followed owing to deficiency of autumn or winter rains by a bad rabi, then relief should ordinarily be given. If the deficiency in both harvests is 50 per cent. or more as compared with the data, *i. e.*, average area of crops grown on which the assessment was based, then one-half, three-fourths or all of the rabi instalment should be suspended according to circumstances, account being taken of the scarcity of fodder, condition of the cattle, state of water in the wells, migration of agriculturists, &c., &c., in determining the proportion to be suspended, and also to the following matters:—

(1) The history of past harvests should be considered.

(2) Also whether the estate is above or below the circle average, and its assessment is above or below rates.

(3) Where a substantial part of the assessment is charged on the waste, the condition of the grass and cattle should be specially taken into account.

(4) In estates depending chiefly on wells, allowance should be made for the portion of the crops consumed as fodder by the well cattle.

(5) Regard should also be had to the range of prices, the character of the outturn and the general condition of the people.

III.—If the drought or other agricultural calamity, *e. g.*, floods, continues till the following kharíf, then wholesale suspension should be given to the "insecure" tracts; *e. g.*, if the kharíf is again 50 per cent. below the normal in a village, and there has been a deficiency of 50 per cent. in the combined result of the two previous harvests, the whole demand should be suspended.

In such cases, too, it will be found advisable to extend relief to the "secure" villages, half or more of the demand being suspended according to circumstances.

IV.—If the ensuing harvest, *i. e.*, the rabi, is again unfavourably affected by the drought or by floods, then the condition of all the "insecure" estates and of all the "secure" estates outside the Charkhari circles of Wazírabad and Gujránwála should be thoroughly overhauled in the light of the statistics of the previous three harvests, and half, three-fourths or all of the demand again suspended, it being borne in mind that the cumulative effect of successive bad harvests is a strong reason for showing greater consideration than the results of the particular *harvest* would appear to warrant.

V.—To secure that suspensions should be of benefit to the people, they should be announced before the zamíndárs are forced to borrow to meet the impending demand and before the lambardár begins to collect. The character of the kharíf harvest will have declared itself by the 15th September, of the rabi by 15th February, and when it is anticipated that suspensions will be required, the Tahsíldár should send in his report and proposals for the kharíf before the end of September, for the rabi before the end of February. The Collector or Officer deputed by him will thus be in a position to inspect the villages during the crop inspections, and the result of the *girdáwari* will enable the Collector to check the proposals and come to a decision as to the relief called for while the crop is still on the ground.

VI.—In calculating the deficiency of the crop, area and outturn should be considered. The standard of area to be taken is not that of the previous year or years, but that on which the assessment fixed as fluctuating was based as shown in the village note-book. Account should also be taken not only of the area of crops failed and harvested, but of their kind. Thus in the kharíf, cane and cotton are grown chiefly to sell, maize for winter food, while jowár, moth, &c., are largely fodder crops and of comparatively little value. The failure of the cane and cotton may, therefore, seriously cripple the revenue-paying power of a village, even though large areas of jowár, moth, &c., may have been harvested.

VII.—Where revenue has once been suspended, no attempt should be made to realize it till a good harvest has been reaped and garnered. The practice of realizing after heavy rain gives *promise* of a good crop is to be deprecated. The zamíndár is not in a position to pay, without borrowing, till he has got in his harvest. Hence the suspended revenue should not be realized till the instalment due for a successful harvest falls due.

VIII.—As a rule suspended revenue should be realized as far as possible only when there is a successful rabi. The rabi is the more important and money-getting crop. In the adjoining Bár and Bár circles, the prosperity of which depends chiefly on their reaping a large area of *baráni* crops in the rabi, this rule should be particularly adhered to.

IX.—No matter how successful the harvest, no attempt should be made to realize more than one suspended instalment along with the ordinary demand. To do more will cripple the zamíndár just when he needs breathing time to recover himself, purchase bullocks, lay by a stock for food, seed grain, &c.

X.—Before proposing suspensions or remissions for damage done by floods, the prospects of succeeding harvest should be taken into consideration, as it often happens that the kharíf crop, which is relatively unimportant in alluvial villages, is damaged by high floods, but these may be so fertilizing or so beneficial for rabi sowings that the loss is more than made up in the rabi. The remarks in the village note-book should also be referred to as showing whether the estate was leniently assessed to allow for periodic floods.

XI. When remissions are proposed for the loss of a crop in any particular harvest, whether by hail, floods or locusts, the remission should ordinarily cover the demand for that area, or for the harvest on the holdings affected, not the demand for the year. Double-cropping in this district is very rare, and the zamíndár looks to his single crop, in whatever harvest grown, to meet the demand for both harvests. This rule is also necessary in the interest of the State revenue. A village may have elected to pay half the annual demand in the kharíf, while the kharíf crop may be of slight importance from a revenue-paying point of view compared with the rabi. Suppose their relative importance to be kharíf one-fifth, rabi four-fifths. The entire failure of the kharíf would not justify the suspension or remission of half the annual demand.

Note by J. Wilson, Esquire, (Deputy Commissioner and Settlement Collector) on the scheme of suspensions and remissions in the Shahpur District.

No. $\frac{820}{C. II.-1}$, dated 25th March 1895.

From—S. S. Thorburn, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division,
To—The Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

With reference to paragraph 8 of annexure C to Revenue Circular No. 31, I have the honor to forward, for the orders of the Financial Commissioner, a copy of paragraph 6 to end of Deputy Commissioner, Shahpur's No. 94 of the 10th April 1894, containing a scheme for the working on partially automatic lines of a system of suspensions and remissions owing to vicissitudes of season. Two copies of the map prepared by the Deputy Commissioner, showing the classification of villages affected into secure and insecure, are also forwarded herewith. These have been approved by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture in his No. 1628 of 17th September last.

2. The delay in submission of this report is due to length of time taken by the Deputy Commissioner in preparing copies of these maps which only reached me on the 20th instant.

3. I think the proposals contained in the extracts enclosed (which were framed by Mr. Wilson) sound, if we can rely on the statistics which are required by the scheme being properly prepared and kept up to date. I endorse what Mr. Wilson says in his paragraph 7, *viz.*, "no scheme can be devised which will work automatically or dispense with the necessity of a local inspection and a careful consideration of all the circumstances of the estate." The great point is that the inspection should be made in good time, say two months before the revenue instalment is due.

4. I also agree with the opinion expressed by Colonel Montgomery, Officiating Commissioner, in his note, dated 27th April 1894, a copy of which also accompanies.

Extract from a letter No. 94, dated 10th April 1894, from J. Wilson, Esquire, Settlement Collector, Shahpur, to the Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.

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Scheme for suspensions.

6. I have already submitted a scheme for the working of suspensions in paragraph 104 of my Assessment Report of the Shahpur tahsíl. I have found this system very useful as a guide to suspensions and realizations of suspended revenue during the last four years. It is worked in this way—

I.—In each village note-book I have had entered in red ink the average area cropped during the last four or five harvests, so as to give an idea of what may be considered an average harvest for the village. A fresh average should be struck every time the estate is specially attested.

II.—Every harvest the patwári in the "remarks" column of the crop abstract notes separately the following matters—(1) whether the area cropped this harvest is above, below, or about average; (2) whether the outturn per acre is above, below, or about average; (3) the condition of the grass and cattle; (4) the revenue instalment and its incidence per bigha of cropped area; (5) the amount given by applying fluctuating assessment rates to the area cropped in the present harvest.

These fluctuating assessment rates have been calculated in the manner described in paragraph 101 of the Shahpur Tahsíl Assessment Report so as to bring out on an average of years approximately the same assessment as has been announced as a fixed assessment. They are as follows (per acre) :—

Tahsíl.	Circle.	Cháhi.	Nahri.	Sailáb.	Báráni.	Náladár.	Rárídár.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Bhera ...	Chenáb ...	1 12 0	0 8 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	...	...
" ...	Bár ...	1 8 0	0 8 0	...	1 0 0	...	...
" ...	Jhelum ...	2 8 0	0 8 0	2 8 0	1 0 0	...	...
Shahpur ...	Bár ...	1 4 0	0 8 0	...	1 0 0	...	...
" ...	Ara ...	1 4 0	...	...	1 0 0	...	...
" ...	Jhelum ...	2 0 0	0 8 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	...	...
Khusháb ...	Jhelum ...	1 12 0	0 4 0	1 14 0	0 6 0	...	...
" ...	Thal ...	...	...	...	0 6 0	...	...
" ...	Muhar ...	...	...	...	0 8 0	1 10 0	1 1 0
	Hill ...	The Khewat rates of the estate.					

III.—The tahsíl kánúngo draws up at each harvest a list of all the estates in the tahsíl, showing the amount in arrear, the instalment of the harvest, and the total revenue due, also the sum given by applying these fluctuating assessment rates to the area cropped in this harvest and the same sum increased by 50 per cent. This statement is placed before the Tahsíldár, who compares the total amount due with the fluctuating assessment estimate increased by 50 per cent. and if the latter exceeds the former, there is generally no reason to think suspension necessary, as the rates fixed are generally well below half net asset rates, and as a rule the latter figure does not represent so much as three-quarter net assets for the current harvest. Should, however, the latter figure fall short of the total amount due, the Tahsíldár is required to report specially regarding that estate as to whether there is not need for suspension.

Matters to be considered.

7. This system of course furnishes only a rough guide capable of directing attention to cases which call for special enquiry. Where the fluctuating assessment estimate increased by 50 per cent. falls short of the total revenue due, a number of other considerations have to be taken into account,—(1) the fluctuating assessment estimate for the previous harvest should be compared with the actual realizations for that harvest, for it often happens that when one harvest has been a very good one, a smaller area than usual is sown for the following harvest, or the instalments may not be in exact proportion to the areas harvested; (2) the history of the harvests for the past two or three years should be taken into account; (3) it should be considered whether the estate is above or below the average of the circle, and whether its fixed assessment is above or below circle average; (4) in the Bár and Thal it should be remembered that a large proportion of the assessment is charged on the waste land and payable from cattle produce, and the condition of the grass and cattle should be specially taken into account; (5) in estates depending chiefly on wells, care should be taken in years of drought to deduct from the areas used for the fluctuating assessment estimate the portion of the crops which has been consumed as fodder by the well-bullocks; (6) regard should be had to the range of prices, the character of the outturn and the general condition of the people. No scheme can be devised which will work automatically or dispense with the necessity of a local inspection and a careful consideration of all the circumstances of the estate, but the scheme above sketched out will be found very useful in directing attention in the first instance to cases requiring special consideration and in affording a guide as to the extent to which it is safe to realize revenue under suspension.

Fraction to be suspended.

8. As a general rule when a suspension is granted to an estate, it should be either the whole instalment or three-fourths, one-half or one-fourth of the whole instalment, and the realization of suspended revenue should be made in similar fractions which are easily understood by the people. It is generally impossible, except where there is a complete system of fluctuating assessment in force, to go into the circumstances of each holding separately, and any attempt to do so only leads to confusion and heart-burning. The only safe plan, unless in exceptional circumstances, is to treat the estate as a whole and grant each owner the same measure of suspension. Of course if it comes to a remission of revenue, endeavour should be made to apportion the relief to the needs of the individual owners.

Note by Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. L. Montgomery, Offg. Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division, on Mr. Wilson's report on secure and insecure tracts in Shahpur District,—dated 27th April 1894.

I have discussed this report with Mr. Wilson at Shahpur, and I support his classification of the district into secure and insecure areas. The reasons for the classification are sound, and Mr. Wilson has a thorough knowledge of the district.

As to his scheme for suspensions, I would make the following remarks. The method described in paragraph 7 is excellent, if the statistics required by the scheme are kept up to date. Mr. Wilson assures me that, the number of villages in each tahsíl not being excessive, the statements can be prepared for every harvest. If this can be done, the return makes an excellent guide whereby to gauge the character of each harvest. Rule III, paragraph 6, is worded so as to make the return useful, also for a consideration whether suspended revenue can be realized, "the amount in arrear" entered in this rule referring to amounts in arrear from past harvests.

The matters to be considered in paragraph 7 are all important. If a village has been assessed very much above or below revenue rates at the settlement, the figures given by the fluctuating assessment rates will require modification before being considered a safe criterion of its revenue-paying capacity. The local inspection and careful consideration of all the circumstances of the estate are essential.

No system of returns should on any account be allowed to dispense with the local inspection by the Collector or the Revenue Assistant of every village in which suspension or remission is proposed.

With these observations I forward the Collector's map and returns for the sanction of the Financial Commissioner.

Note by F. A. Robertson, Esquire, Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab, on the scheme of suspensions and remissions in the Rawalpindi District.

In drawing up a scheme for the grant of suspensions of land revenue in the Ráwalpindi District, I think the best plan will be very briefly to note some of the most important characteristics of the agricultural conditions of the various circles, which differ so greatly from each other, and to draw attention to some of the most important considerations to be borne in mind in considering each case, as it must be considered, on its merits at the time when the necessity arises.

The only tracts in the Ráwalpindi District which can be classed as "secure" are the Murree Tahsíl, the "Pahár" (mountain) circles of the Kahuta Tahsíl, both of which have a heavy and certain rainfall and have never known famine, and a portion of the "Chach" circle in the Attock Tahsíl, which is protected by numerous wells and streams which are never known to fail.

In discussing the question of suspensions therefore, these tracts may be excluded from further notice.

Immediately south of the "Pahár" circle of Kahuta come the Kalar circle on the west and the Kahro circle on the east in the same tahsíl. The rainfall in both these circles is heavy, and, though they cannot be called "secure," fairly certain and failures of crops are not common. A full description will b found in the Assessment Reports. These, with the Kandi Sohan circle of the Ráwalpindí Tahsíl, the Gujar Khan Tahsil, the whole of which was treated as one circle, the Sil circle of Fatahjang and the Chach plain are of a totally different character from the Pindigheb Tahsíl and the remaining circles of the Fatahjang and Attock Tahsíls. The first set of circles forming generally the eastern portion of the district have a much better and more certain rainfall, more careful cultivation, generally better soil and are altogether agriculturally on a higher scale than the western portions (*see* paragraph 7 of the Final Report).

Taking the circles in order.

Group A.

In the Kálar, Kahuta and Kahro circles (Tahsíl Kahuta), the Gujar Khan circle, the Kandi Sohan circle (Tahsíl Ráwalpindi), the Sil Sohan circle (Tahsíl Fatahjang), and the Chach circle of Tahsíl Attock, the holdings are comparatively small and the owners cultivate much of their land themselves. I give here a table showing at the time the Assessment Reports were written the average area of owners' holdings, of tenants' holdings and the percentage of the land cultivated by owners and tenants in each circle. This table can be corrected to date when occasion arises:—

Name of Tahsíl.	Assessment Circle.	Average area per owner's holdings in acres.	Average area of tenants' holdings in acres.	Percentage of land cultivated by owners.	Percentage of land cultivated by tenants.
Ráwalpindi ...	Kandi Sohan ...	4·4	1·9	70	30
	Kharora ...	9·1	3·4	49	51
Pindigheb ...	Makhad ...	11·4	6·7	74	26
	Jandál ...	14·0	6·1	61	39
	Sil ...	13·5	7·5	39	61
Attock ...	Chach ...	2·32	1·4	44	56
	Sarwála ...	11·78	3·8	24	76
	Nulla ...	10·19	3·9	27	73
Fatahjang ...	Nulla ...	14·0	6·0	18	82
	Gheb ...	13·0	9·1	17	83
	Sil Sohan ...	5·8	2·1	70	30
Kahúta ...	Pahár ...	2·2	1·1	61	39
	Kalar Kahuta ...	3·4	2·0	73	27
	Kahru ...	3·4	2·1	66	34
Murree ...	Murree ...	2·0	1·3	56	44
Gujar Khan ...	Gujar Khan ...	6·1	2·0	79	21

In the eastern circles now under discussion no suspension will be required if one harvest should fail in immediate succession to a good harvest.

A second failure of crop in succession would certainly necessitate suspensions at once, which would probably have to be converted into remissions.

Group B.

The next group of circles which will require very similar treatment to each other is made up of the two Nala circles (in the Tahsíls Attock and Fatahjang) and the Khorora circle of Ráwalpindi. These are intermediate circles, better than those further west, but not equal to those further east.

In these circles the failure of a harvest even in succession to a good harvest would make suspensions necessary. Two failures in succession would probably make remissions necessary, but suspensions should be freely resorted to in the first instance.

Group C.

The inferior circles of the district are the Sarwála circle (Tahsíl Attock), the two Gheb circles (in Tahsíls Fatahjang and Pindigheb), and the Makhad and Jandál circles of the Pindigheb Tahsíl. In any of these circles in the case of a failure of crops unless the previous harvest has been an exceptionally good one, suspensions should be promptly and freely given. *See* paragraphs 94–96 of the Attock Assessment Report, and paragraph 317 of the Final Report.

It must not be supposed from this grouping together of circles that any very strong identity exists between the circles of each group; far from it. But the principles upon which suspensions should be granted are the same in each case, and a detailed description of each will be found in the Assessment Reports, and cannot be given here.

So far as to suspensions. With regard to recoveries, speaking generally, they should be made from the next good harvest.

In Group A, and in a less degree in Group B, if two failures follow each other, remissions will probably have to be granted. It is true that these are the best circles in the district, but, on the other hand, they are more highly assessed, the holdings are small and highly cultivated, and there is little room for the expansion of cultivation. Conseqently these peasant proprietors cannot hope to get a sufficient excess of crop in any one harvest to recoup them for two previous bad ones. In Group C the exact opposite is the case; there the holdings are large, the cultivation inferior and the assessment low. When a really good season does come the area under cultivation is capable of great expansion, and the seasons vary so much more than in the east that the excess produce of a good harvest over an ordinary one can be very much greater than can be the case in Group A. Consequently in Group C, in the first instance recoveries should be made from the next good harvest. If, however, a succession of failures should occur, any outstanding balance exceeding one year's revenue should be remitted, but outstandings for one year should be recovered when a really good harvest is once more obtained.

NOTE.—In this connection consider how comparatively easily one year's revenue could be recovered in the Jandál circle from a really good crop of grain.

In considering the necessity or otherwise for suspensions, I note a few points which deserve a careful attention.

The villages of Ráwalpindi District even within their circles differ immensely from each other, and no general conclusion should be come to. Each village must be considered separately. No scheme could do more than point out a direction for profitable enquiry. Any arithmetical or automatic scheme is in this district out of the question.

In considering the necessity for suspensions, the first point to enquire is what kind of harvests have immediately preceded the present failure in the villages under consideration.

It makes all the difference whether a failure follows another failure or a good crop or a series of either.

Having carefully considered this point and read the remarks in the village note-books on the character of the various harvests, the crop areas given in the Crop Abstract Statements (*Jinswár*) of the village note-books should be carefully examined, the areas of the crop sown and the areas which failed, the class of crops and the state of balances should all be noted. A report should be called for on the village from the Tahsíldár in which the condition of the village cattle should be carefully noted.

The actual rate at which the assessment fell on the area of crops which came to maturity for several previous years should be calculated, and the size of the holdings and the possibility of an expansion of cultivation all require attention.

For instance, a peasant proprietor in the eastern circles with good land, a small holding and a high assessment is much less able to repay suspensions when a good harvest

comes than a proprietor in the western circles, with inferior land, a low assessment, but much greater power of expanding the area of his cultivation in a good season, and a much greater chance of getting a large excess of produce over the average in a good season.

In a village held by large well-to-do proprietors who cultivate mainly through tenants suspensions are rarely required, and the proprietors prefer to pay their revenue regularly. If necessary, remissions should be given. It is in villages held and cultivated by small peasant proprietors that they are more likely to be required. In the western circles the villages are more frequently held by large proprietors and cultivated by tenants paying rent in kind. In the east they are mostly cultivated by small peasant proprietors who till their own land.

I have endeavoured to indicate above the lines on which the question of granting suspension in any village should be considered. It would be easy to expand this note to large dimensions, but the Assessment Reports and the Final Report are available, and I think that nothing further can be added with much advantage.

It will depend upon the condition of the village at the time and the state of affairs which has immediately preceded the failure of crops under consideration, into which full enquiry must be made whether suspensions are required or not. But it is hoped that the notes which I have put together will be useful to any officer who has to make the enquiry.

Note on the grant of suspensions and remissions of Land Revenue in the Ráwalpindi District, by E. B. STEEDMAN, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiárpur.

MR. ROBERTSON has asked me to add anything I might wish to his remarks on suspensions and remissions recommended for the Ráwalpindi Districts. As Mr. Robertson discussed the matter fully with me lately at Hoshiárpur, this note will be a brief one.

First, let me add my earnest protest against the vain idea that any perfect automatic arrangement regulating suspensions and remissions and indicating the proper dates for their grant is possible. Fluctuating assessments alone roughly approach this ideal. With a fixed assessment all that can be done is to point out the various considerations that should guide a Collector in deciding whether suspension or remission should be given or not, to what amount and when. You must trust your Collector. If he makes proper use of the data in the village note-books and the local knowledge of his subordinates, I do not see why a Collector even new to the district should not be able to satisfactorily decide these questions.

Holding these views, I would insist on each village being considered separately with reference to the principles that Mr. Robertson has recorded in his notes. While in charge of the Ráwalpindi District last hot weather, the suspensions and remissions of past years in Pindigheb and the collection of the rabi instalment came up for disposal. The main question was—"How are the balances to be dealt with?" There was a prospect of an excellent kharif and good rabi sowings, and the past rabi had been fair in parts, bad in others. *I did exactly what Mr. Robertson says ought to be done* in the way of carefully considering the past harvests of each village and the present condition of its proprietors and cattle. Even then, though I know the Pindigheb country well, in several cases I could only indicate what I thought should be done and tell the Tahsildár to make his collections with the greatest care.

In the whole of Tahsil Pindigheb, the south of Attock, the whole of Fátahjang, except perhaps the tract in the Sohan and the west of Ráwalpindi, suspensions should be given as a rule at once. This "at once" may be modified by the circumstances of each village. I would not remit suspensions until at least a year's revenue was in suspense and the character of the next harvest ascertained. Some villages (Mr. Robertson notes them) could easily pay two years' revenue with the rabi harvest if really good, as I have seen it. Here again modify as above. As to remission, I would remit in full as soon as a village began to really deteriorate. Desertion of the cultivators and heavy losses in cattle are a good criterion of this.

I have nothing to add about the eastern tahsils.

Note by Major H. P. P. Leigh, C.I.E. (Deputy Commissioner and Settlement Collector) on the scheme of suspensions and remissions in the Kohat District.

No. 350, dated Peshâwar, 27th October 1894.

From—F. D. CUNNINGHAM, Esquire, C.I.E., Commissioner and Superintendent, Peshâwar Division,

To—The Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

I HAVE the honor to forward copy of a letter No. 217 of 11th September, from Deputy Commissioner, Kohát, discussing a scheme for future grant of suspensions and remissions of revenue. The maps of the district and of the Kohát and Hangu Tahsíls illustrating the classification of secure and insecure areas have been sent to the Director of Land Records, and this letter was in the first instance by mistake also sent to him, hence the delay.

2. There is no fluctuating assessment, river action is limited, changes by alluvion or diluvion are inconsiderable, and no whole villages are affected.

3. Although rainfall is usually small, except in the upper part of the Hangu Tahsíl and in the Chauntra circle of Teri, and much of the land throughout the district is poor, actual famine or severe distress has not been known.

Much of the Hangu and Kohát Tahsíls is secured by irrigation from hill streams.

It seems to me that no systematic scheme for grant of suspensions can be worked out until the next revenue settlement.

The classification of secure and insecure areas made by the Deputy Commissioner appears sound, so far as it goes, and I concur generally in his remarks as to suspensions.

No. 217, dated 11th September 1894.

From—Major H. P. P. LEIGH, C.I.E., Deputy Commissioner, Kohát,

To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Peshâwar Division.

No areas under fluctuating assessment.

*No. 1471, dated 21st August 1893, from the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab, to Deputy Commissioner, Kohát, and Deputy Commissioner's No. $\frac{268}{3394}$, dated 18th November 1893, to Commissioner and Superintendent, Peshâwar Division.

WITH reference to correspondence as per margin,* and with special reference to Appendix C to Punjab Revenue Circular No. 31, I have the honor to report that there are no tracts under fluctuating assessment in this district.

Map showing area affected by alluvion and diluvion.

There is, however, a small amount of alluvion and diluvion along the Kohát Toi in the Kohát Tahsíl and some of the smaller streams. A clause on the subject was entered in the *wájib-ul-arz* of 49 villages at the settlement. No whole villages are affected.

Of these 49, 8 are on the Indus. For most of these it was recorded that the village was not at all or very slightly affected, and that any loss or gain would be disregarded. Thirty-nine of the villages are on the Kohát Toi and its branches. In the case of three, it is entered that any profit or loss will be disregarded. For the remainder, in some cases it is entered that all profit and loss will be taken into consideration. In others a limit is fixed varying from one kanál to five acres, anything less than this to be disregarded. In other cases the limit is put at Re. 1 or Rs. 5 revenue, or 4 per cent. of the cultivated area.

Two villages on the Kurram belonging to Upper Míránzai are also included in the list, but as the cultivated lands in these have never been measured, there is no basis on which alluvion and diluvion returns can be prepared.

Maps of the Kohát and Hangu Tahsíls together with one of the whole district have been prepared in accordance with the instructions given in Appendix C above referred to, and that portion of the estates to which alluvion and diluvion rules apply have been accurately indicated by a wash of blue. No map for the Teri Tahsíl has been prepared, as it contains no villages affected by alluvion or diluvion.

Unassessed waste lands.

2. There are no separate uncultivated areas which pay no land revenue. There are, however, the Khwára and Zíra Jungles, covering an area of 97,779 acres, which are the joint property of Government and the villagers. They are under district management. The area of these forests is included in village boundaries, and is not separately shown.

There are besides a military grass rakh at Khwája Khizar, and Rakhs Sobhád and Topi belonging to the Shakardarra Jágírdár, but these are all assessed. No area in the district has therefore been coloured green.

Maps of secure and insecure areas.

3. In the Hangu Tahsil and in the main portion of the Kohát Tahsíl the people are to a great extent insured against scarcity by the large area that is irrigated from perennial springs and hill streams. In the remainder of the district, in seasons of drought, the people remove to more favoured localities. The people of the Khwára and Zíra Tappás (generally for want of water and cattle fodder or pasturage), migrate into the Pesháwar District, and those of the Khattak Iláqua into the Bannu District. No real distress has ever occurred in this district.

The land of the district is generally of inferior quality, and the rainfall is usually capricious. This no doubt is partly owing to the numerous mountain ranges by which the district is intersected. Except to the north (Míránzai Valley in the Hangu Tahsíl) and south (Chauntra in the Khattak Iláqua) the rainfall is low.

I attach a statement showing the monthly fall of rain registered at the sadr from the years 1867-68 to 1893-94.

Owing to the capricious character of the rainfall, that registered at the sadr is no criterion of the scantiness or heaviness of the rain throughout the district as a whole. It, however, shows in some cases that whenever the rainfall has been unusually low at the time of sowings, or ripening of crops, the crops have suffered from drought, and it has been found necessary to grant suspensions or remissions. I append a table showing the amount of suspensions and remissions granted in the Kohát and Hangu Tahsíls during the past 25 years on account of damage caused to crops by drought.

As the Teri Tahsíl is held on an *istimrári* tenure on payment of a quit-rent of Rs. 20,000, remissions and suspension granted to the zamíndárs by the Teri chiefs have not been shown.

Serial No.	Harvest.	Suspension.	Remission.	Assessment Circle.
		Rs.	Rs.	
1	Kharíf 1868 ...	1,400	1,727	Toi II.
2	Ditto 1869 ...	...	200	Sarozai in Upper Míranzai and Sumári in Koh-i-dáman.
	Ditto ...	...	1,105	Toi II.
3	Rabi 1871 ...	...	1,300	Toi II.
4	Kharíf 1871 ...	630	...	Toi II.
5	Rabi 1875 ...	...	1,875	Koh-i-dáman.
		3,507	...	Toi II.
6	Kharíf 1875 ...	...	1,498	Toi II.
7	Ditto 1876 ...	500	...	Toi II.
8	Rabi 1882 ...	400	...	Toi II.
9	Kharíf 1882 ...	496	368	Koh-i-dáman.
10	Rabi 1883 ...	256 + 623	...	Toi II.
11	Kharíf 1883 ...	166 +	...	Bagatto in Chína Bála.
			866	Togh in Toi II.
		648	...	Janna in Toi II.
12	Kharíf 1887 ...	...	80	Doába in Upper Míranzai.
			80	
13	Rabi 1888 ...	273	...	Sarozai and Sarki Pela (Upper Míranzai) (Koh-i-dáman).
14	Kharíf 1888 ...	...	2,456	Tappa Khwára and Zíra.
		9,747	...	Toi II.
15	Kharíf 1893 ...	3,230	...	Jarma and Kamal Khel in Toi II.

This statement shows that such concessions have mostly been granted in certain villages of assessment circle Toi II.

As these are the villages which are situated at the greatest distance from the source of the Kohát Toi, the crops generally fail in seasons of drought. The unirrigated area of the district is of course almost all insecure. It falls naturally under three classes—

(*i*). A dry hard soil generally free from sand, but lacking moisture. Cultivated areas of this description of land are generally insecure. Every year, unless there are sufficient rains, one-half of the total cultivated area is left unsown, and what is sown generally fails. The land of this description lies in the Khwára Zíra, Patiála and Toi II circles in the Kohát Tahsíl and the Khurram Seni and Lawaghar circles in the Teri Tahsíl.

(*ii*). *Rakhmína*, literally "silky," land which is soft clayey soil with an admixture of sand, and is preferred by the people because the return is more certain and obtained with the least trouble.

There are, however, two kinds of *rakhmína* land, one which, owing to its openness, does not retain moisture for any sufficient time after rain has fallen, and the other being low-lying plots which retain moisture for a long time. An average crop is harvested in case of rainfall in the latter kind of soil, while in the former the crop is inferior even with an average rainfall. These *rakhmína* lands are situated in Míranzai (Upper) Koh-i-dáman, Chína Bála (Tahsíl Hangu), Chína Payan, Toi I (Kohát Tahsíl), Darra, Khurram, Nárri and Chauntra Kuz (Teri Tahsíl).

(*iii*). *Kanzína* or *sanghir* (land having stones scattered through it). Both these varieties are of inferior quality.

There is land of this description throughout the district, but particularly in the Khwára and Khurram circles.

The district then has been divided so as to distinguish between secure and insecure tracts, by colouring the latter on the maps red.

A statement is also annexed which gives reasons for classifying each tract as secure or insecure.

The villages in which about one-fourth of the cultivated area is irrigated and in which during the last 25 years it has seldom been found necessary to grant suspensions or remissions of revenue have been classed as secure ; as have also *báráni* villages, where an average crop is harvested on a small rainfall and where there are wells in existence.

Scheme for the working of suspensions.

To draw up a scale of suspensions for this district would be a matter of great difficulty.

Except the *girdáwari* papers there are no materials at hand for the preparation of such a scheme.

No scale of suspensions can be laid down for the Upper Míranzai Tappa of the Hangu Tahsíl and the Khwára Tappa of the Kohát Tahsíl, both of which have hitherto been only summarily settled.

In the former no field maps (*shajra kishtwár*) were prepared, and in the latter, although such maps were prepared, they show that the lands of several owners have been measured and included under one number. They only show details of the cultivated area at settlement, but these do not tally with the area now under cultivation.

For these reasons a mere inspection of the crops (*girdáwari*) can give no adequate idea as to what suspensions are required.

The tracts that have been shown as insecure in the accompanying statement are mostly dependent on the rainfall. When rain fails, the crops fail and the people are constrained to supplement their sources of income by labour.

The agricultural condition of certain tracts, *viz.*, the Khwára circle and villages Kandi Hisartang and Ghandab in the Niláb circle of the Kohát and Khurram circle of the Teri Tahsíl, is bad and requires careful attention during a time of drought.

I think suspensions should be granted in the insecure tracts in all cases when not less than three-fourths of the cultivated area has either remained unsown owing to scarcity of rain or has failed from the same cause.

The tracts which are cultivated at intervals for certain harvests only do not come under the above category.

Suspensions as regards them should be granted in periods of drought, only in special cases to be judged by their own circumstances.

Whenever it is found necessary to grant suspensions, the amount of these should, I think, bear the same proportion to the total revenue demand of the harvest as the area which remained uncultivated or the crop which failed for want of rain bears the total area recorded as cultivated.

Statement showing the monthly fall of Rain registered at the Sadr from 1867-68 to 1893-94.

Month.	1867-68.	1868-69.	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.
June	...	·7	...	·9	4·0	...	...	1·0	·2	1·2	3·4	·1	·8	2·1
July	...	1·2	3·1	6·3	3·3	10·4	2·2	7·8	3·9	4·8	·7	7·0	2·4	2·2
August	1·9	·2	3·9	2·6	2·5	3·1	2·7	10·3	4·7	2·1	1·0	8·3	2·8	1·6
September	...	0·9	6·0	1·4	·9	·5	2·1	·6	9·1	1·2	·8	·6	1·5	1·9
October	...	...	1·1	...	...	·8	·5	...	1·3	3·0	1·9	2·4	...	...
November	...	...	·1	...	...	·2	·5	...	1·2	1·6	13·0	...	...	·7
December	1·0	1·7	...	·3	·6	...	·6	...	·3	·9	4·1	...	·6	·7
January	...	·8	·8	·1	3·2	1·7	6·0	...	2·0	2·7	1·9	...	...	·2
February	1·6	·5	...	5·9	1·2	·6	·2	3·0	·8	3·3	1·6	·4	·5	·5
March	4·9	2·8	2·1	·7	1·5	1·1	1·1	1·4	3·5	2·0	·1	2·3	...	3·1
April	3·4	1·8	·5	·6	2·1	·1	·3	...	1·5	3·8	2·0	...	...	3·9
May	1·2	·2	...	1·8	3·5	2·0	...	3·4	·2	2·6	2·2	...	2·3	...
Total	14·0	10·8	17·6	20·6	31·8	20·5	16·2	26·5	28·7	29·2	32·7	21·1	10·9	16·9

Month.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	Average.
June	1·4	Figures not available.	Not available.	·30	·21	·54	·96	·20	1·50	1·01	·15	·18	·24	
July	2·0			3·32	1·60	1·09	2·07	·80	3·10	·78	·48	3·75	6·21	
August	2·0			2·59	2·88	1·77	1·50	2·10	3·80	4·88	·56	14·99	1·12	
September	·6			2·16	·58	1·10	1·29	...	·80	...	1·64	...	2·98	
October	·8			·78	...	...	·47	·30	...	·21	·37	·81	·35	
November	...			·33	·10	·24	...	2·00	...	2·60	...	...	...	
December	...			...	·52	·25	...	...	...	1·53	...	·10	1·31	
January	1·3		1·9	3·26	2·77	·06	·72	1·20	·78	4·66	...	2·07	·93	
February	...		1·3	1·50	1·64	...	1·14	2·90	·20	2·77	·12	·33	·95	
March	1·1		2·2	2·76	3·86	1·10	·70	·80	2·25	3·74	·72	2·63	1·56	
April	Not available.		·4	6·48	1·80	1·00	·82	1·60	2·76	1·07	...	·70	2·61	
May			·4	5·80	2·62	0·26	...	7·0	1·65	1·62	·78	3·17	·32	
Total	13·9	20·7	18·0	29·28	18·58	7·41	9·67	12·40	16·93	24·87	4·82	28·73	18·57	19·31

KOHAT:
The 11th September 1894.

H. P. P. LEIGH, MAJOR,
Deputy Commissioner.

Statement showing division of Kohát District into "Secure" and "Insecure" tracts—

Serial No.	Name of Tahsíl.	Name of assessment circle.	Secure or insecure.	Detail of villages.	Remarks.
1	Hangu ...	Bár Míranzai.	Secure ...	Muhammadzai, Thal, Darsámand, Torwari and Naryáb.	This circle is situated to the north-west of the district; *ábi* area is large and sufficient in these villages. In case of scarcity of rain an average crop is harvested as a rule. No remissions or suspensions were granted in any of these villages during the past 25 years, except Rs. 40 suspended in village Shinawari (Naryáb) for Rabi 1875 for drought.
2	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Insecure	Kábi, Doába and Sározai ...	The irrigated area is small, while the unirrigated area is of inferior quality; in consequence of which more than half of the cultivated area in Sározai and about half in Doába has become uncultivated since settlement. There is but little irrigated area in Káhi. Instalment for Kharíf 1869 remitted in village Sározai and that for Rabi 1888 suspended. In Doába instalment for Kharíf 1887 and Rabi 1888 remitted. No remissions or suspensions granted in village Káhi.
3	Ditto ...	Koh-i-dáman.	Secure ...	Togh and Bár Abbás Khel ..	Although the irrigated area of these villages is small, the unirrigated area is of good quality, and the area of crops harvested annually nearly equals that of the cultivated area recorded at settlement. Even in case of scarcity of rain an average crop is gathered in. No suspension or remission ever granted in village Bár Abbás Khel during the last 25 years. Rabi instalment of 1875 remitted in village Togh.
4	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Insecure	Balyamín, Muhammad Khoja, Sarki Pela, Chamba Gul, Chhappar, Sumári Lower, and Sumári Upper.	The *ábi* area is very small, and the *báráni* area is not of good quality. A greater portion of the crops fails (*kharába*) whenever the rainfall is below the average. The following remissions and suspensions granted during past 25 years :— *Remissions.* Kharíf 1868 ... Sarki Pela, Chamba Gul, Chhappar. Do. 1869 ... Village Sumári. Rabi 1875 ... Sarki Pela, Sumári Payán, Balyamína. Kharíf 1882 ... Muhammad Khoja. *Suspensions.* Rabi 1888 ... Sarki Pela.
5	Ditto ...	Chína Bála.	Secure ...	Lakhti, Mardu Khel, Zanki, Mirobak, Kharsha, Bábar Mela, Ibráhímzai, Shahu Khel, Bázár, Lodi Khel, Ráis, Khwája Khizar, Kotki Bála, Kotki Payán, Bagatto, Hangu, Háji Khel, Khalífa and Kachh.	Same remarks as for Míranzai secure villages *Remissions.* Rabi 1875 ... Zanki Rs. 30. *Suspensions.* Rabi 1883 ... Bagatto.
6	Hangu ...	Chína Bála	Insecure	Jabbi ...	The irrigated area is very small in this village, while the *báráni* is of inferior quality. Crops fail whenever rainfall is below the average. *Remissions.* Kharíf 1868 ... Jabbi. Do. 1882 ... Ditto. *Suspension.* Kharíf 1888 ... Jabbi.

Statement showing division of Koh́át District into "Secure" and "Insecure" tracts—
continued.

Serial No.	Name of Tahsíl.	Name of assessment circle.	Secure or insecure.	Detail of villages.	Remarks.
7	Kohát ...	Chína Payán.	Secure ...	Maráí Bála and Payán, Jangal Mír Asghar Mela, Landai, Músa Khel, Torwari, Ustarzai Bála and Payán, Jab Ghabru, Arázi Nasrat Khel, Sherkot, Chilli Badabir, Khádizai, Darwi Khel, Alizai and Chikarkot.	These villages are included in a single circle and their whole cultivated area is *ábi.* Even in years of drought an average crop is harvested. The whole circle has therefore been classed as secure.
	Ditto ...	Toi I ...	Ditto ...	Tappi, Báqizai, Mírozai, Míri, Khwája Khizar, Bezadi, Cantonment, Kohát. Mansúr Khel, Jangal, Pír Khel, Mír Ahmad Khel, Mián Khel, Kurd, Bahádurkot, Kharmatu, Dhoda, Banda Mosam Khan, Banda Abdul Samád and Bahawalgarh.	Similar remarks apply to this circle. Its villages are irrigated from the Kohát springs and Toi. *Suspensions.* Rabi 1875 ... Tappi Báqizai. Kharíf 1876 ... Tappi. *Remissions.* Kharíf 1869 ... Khwája Khizar. Rabi 1871 ... ditto.
9	Ditto ...	Toi II ...	Ditto ...	Nasrat Khel, Kaghzai, Muhammadzai, Banda Hasan Ali, Regi Shínu Khels, Gari Mawáz Khan, Bár, Báman, Shahpur, Gada Khel, Shádi Khel, Gandiáli Bála and Payán, Togh, Kálu China. Chak Malayan and Shekhán.	All these villages are irrigated from the Toi. Some are also irrigated from the Kohát springs. The irrigated area of all exceeds the *báráni* area. It has never been found necessary to grant suspension of revenue in these villages except the following :— *Remissions.* Kharíf 1868 ... Shekhán, Gada Khel and Gandiáli. Do. 1869 ... Shahpur. Rabi 1871 ... Shahpur and Báman. *Suspensions.* Kharíf 1868 ... Shahpur. Do. 1869 ... Ditto. Rabi 1875 ... Shahpur, Báman, Garhi Mawáz Khan. Kharíf 1875 ... Ditto ditto. Rabi 1883 ... Shahpur and Báman. Kharíf 1883 ... Togh. Rabi 1882 ... Shekhán. Kharíf 1888 ... Báman, Shahpur, Togh and Muhammadzai.
10	Kohát ...	Toi II ...	Insecure	Borakka, Chichána, Dáúd Khel, Kamál Khel, Manda Khel, Marchungi, Kotheri, Siáb, Bilitang, Bazíd Khel, Kot, Kamardhand, Chambái, Surgul and Jarma.	Very little land in these villages is irrigated. It is of inferior quality, and often fails during drought. There are wells in some villages, but they do not contain sufficient water. Some irrigated area exists in the villages of Bilitang, Kamardhand, Chambái and Surgul, but these villages are situated lowest down the stream and receives only a small quantity of water. Crops often fail for want of irrigation. *Remissions.* Kharíf 1868 ... Borakka, Surgul and Bazíd Khel. Do. 1869 ... Chambái, Jarma and Kamardhand. Rabi 1871 ... Chambái, Borakka, Kamardhand Surgul and Jarma. *Suspensions.* Kharíf 1868 ... Kamardhand. Rabi 1875 ... Chambái, Kamardhand. Kharíf 1875 ... Chambái. Do. 1876 ... Jarma. Do. 1882 ... Bilitang. Rabi 1882 ... Bilitang and Bazíd Khel. Rabi 1883 ... Surgul, Chambái. Kharíf 1883 ... Jarma. Do. 1888 ... Kamardhand, Chambái, Surgul, Jarma, Kot, Bilitang.

Statement showing division of Kohát District into "Secure" and "Insecure" tracts—continued.

Serial No.	Name of Tahsíl.	Name of assessment circle.	Secure or insecure.	Detail of villages.	REMARKS.
11	Kohát ...	Shakardarra.	Insecure	Shakardarra, Rakh Topi, Rakh Sobhán.	The whole area is *báráni* of an inferior quality. The crops on about half the area fail. These villages therefore suffer severely in seasons of drought. Suspensions have been granted once or twice.
12	Ditto ...	Kohi ...	Ditto ...	Khoza Khel, Darsha Khel, Torastáni, Sin, Mandáni, Shádipur Pasta Chanda, Ziárat Sheikh Allahdád, Jabbar, Keri Sheikhán, Chorlákki, Kamar, Khushálgarh and Kasába.	About one-sixth of the area is irrigated in the village of Ziárat Sheikh Allahdád and also some in Darsha Khel and Khoza Khel. The remainder of the area of these villages and the whole of that and the others is unirrigated and of bad quality. In these villages half of the area recorded as under cultivation has never been either sown or harvested. The rainfall is always scanty in this circle, though plenty of rain is always required. The area cultivated is therefore small owing to want of moisture, while whatever is sown often fails. *Remissions.* Kharíf 1890 and Rabi 1891.
13	Ditto ...	Khwára ...	Ditto ...	Mámi Khel, Shawángi Káhi, Shegái, Assu Khel, Gajju Khel, Amír, Garu, Mír Kalán, Maroba, Nízámpur, Nimal Sára Toi, both Mazri Tangs, Kamar Mela, Lashura and Totakki.	The land of this circle is inferior in quality to any in the district. The circle is situated in the zone of least rainfall. The people are in poor circumstances and live by labour other than agriculture. The area sown is very small, and the great part of it generally fails every year. *Remissions.* Kharíf 1888 ... Khwara circle. Rabi 1890 ... Ditto.
14	Kohát ...	Niláb ...	Insecure	Darwázaí, Charpáni Manduri, Jabbi, Amánpur, Kawa, Thowa Gharíbpura, Hissár Tang and Indzári Gandhab.	Although there is some *cháhi* area (land irrigated by wells) in the villages of Darwázai and Manduri, the greater portion of the area pays revenue at *báráni* rates. These villages have suffered severely ever since settlement. Crops generally fail whenever there is insufficient rain. The condition of villages Hissár Tang and Indzári Gandhab is similar to that of the Khwara Tappa generally. *Remissions.* Kharíf 1888 and Rabi 1890.
15	Teri, tract under settlement.	Seni ...	Ditto ...	Wallai, Ali Kachh, Gharozai, Ghurzandi, Chashmái Miángan, Hoti Darmalak, Chanda Fatteh Khan, Hindki Banda, Banda Fatteh Khan, Lachi Bála and Paván, Manduri, Gulshah Khel, Massan Khel, Banda Bhattiáran, Mohmandi, Khiddar Khel, Katta Kana, Gumbat and Ghorozai Payán.	The villages are generally *báráni*. Certain villages contain an insignificant amount of irrigated area. The *báráni* area is not of good quality, and the crop fails in a season of drought; the land is of inferior quality generally.
16	Ditto ...	Khurram	Ditto ...	Tolánj, Kandar, Parshái, Tilkán Resi, Nakband, Toi Banda, Darbokachh, Lokhári Chasháwa, Ghunda, Nizhosam, Tarwa Bhera, Dartappi, Karirosam, Malgin, Warshand, Chak Lower Ismail Khel, Chak Pail Ismail Khel, Dolái Banda, Braghdi, Soweri, Shahzádi, Sodol, Takht, Karboghi Gurra Khel, Shiwakki, Khazhobi, Chakhtu, Chanda Manzai, Chanda Khurram, Bozha, Jatta Ismail Khel, Ali Khan Khel and Zanaka.	The whole of this circle is insecure. Generally the rainfall is small, and the quality of land and general condition of cultivation is worse than that obtaining in the Seni circle. The lands are, as a rule, uneven and are situated between dry hills. The whole area is *báráni* and sandy, while "saltpetre" abounds.

Statement showing division of Kohát District into "Secure" and "Insecure" tracts—concluded.

Serial No.	Name of Tahsíl.	Name of assessment circle.	Secure or insecure.	Detail of villages.	REMARKS.
17	Teri, tract under settlement.	Darra ...	Secure ...	Maurmi Khel, Sheikhán, Shakar Khel, Sangeni, Chashmái Akor Khelan, Umar Khan Kila, Dasbái and Karbogha.	There is only a small *abi* area in villages Karbogha and Dashái, the remainder is unirrigated. There are, however, plots of land between the hill ranges. These lands are of good quality and retain the moisture therefore with a small amount of rain, an average crop is harvested. In the remaining villages the *abi* area is about one-half of the whole.
18	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Insecure	Dharangi, Banda Dáúd Shah, Dharakki, Kharri Banda, Barbára, Teri, Ahmadi Banda, Makori, Mansúrgarh, Isák, Khumári, Band Becharágh, Bergi, Halála, Rakh Mírándi, Melu, Chal, Urmar, Mardán Khel, Sharki, Sani, Bakha, Landuki, Kundi, Tarik Sam, Banda Mathu Khel, Dallan Ganderi, Miánji Khel, Gogarri, Amánkot, Shahídán Darga and Darish Khel.	The area of these villages is of somewhat better quality than that of certain villages of the Khurram circle. The remarks given for the Khurram circle, therefore equally apply to these villages. The villages of Darish Khel and Shahidán Darga in reality belong to the Bárak Tappa. They have been entered here owing to their having been only now brought under settlement.
19	Teri (settled tract).	Nárri ...	Insecure	Nár, Bahádur Khel, Khurram, Shiwa, Totakki, Daggar, Panos, Serikháwa and Kol.	The area of this circle is of inferior quality and rainfall is scanty. The land is generally mixed with sand, and although a small amount of area is irrigated by wells in Daggar and Panos, yet the crop has also to depend on rain.
20	Ditto ...	Chauntra	Ditto ...	Jandarái, Shahdankuli Khel, Sar Toi, Nashpa, Idal Khel, Shiwa Hindu Kush, Deli, Mela, Kabír Kili, Ali Khel, Tarki Khel, Badin Khel Garori, Mushki Khel, Ghari Khel, Biland Kili, Talab Khel, Ghundi Mira Khan Khel. Langar Khel, Zára Khel, Kamáli, Amab, Sarat Khel, Ahmad Khel, Kotha Kili, Khwája Khel, Garjal Khel, Dhoda Khel, Isák and Tiráu Khui.	Same remarks as for Nárri.
21	Ditto ...	Chauntra Kuz.	Secure ...	Mitta Khel, Tarkha Khui, Gandáo, Karak and Tappi.	These villages contain area irrigated from wells. As each well has but a small area to irrigate, the produce is good even in case of cessation of rains. The *baráni* area is also of average quality.
22	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Insecure	Lakki Ghundáki, Garori and Garozai.	Same remarks as for Nárri.
23	Thal ...	Thal ...	Ditto ...	Garozai, Latámmar, Mandáo, Alam Sheri, Landkamar, Ahmadwála, Chowkára, Tatti Nasrati, Chak Manzai and Shanáwa Guddi Khel.	Same remarks as for Nárri. The land of this circle is sandy.
24	Ditto ...	Láwághar	Ditto ...	Saráj Khel, Dabli, Kanda, Kamángar, Shagai, Sarki, Mamáni, Khusra, Saif Ali, Wanaka, Kandu Khel, Chani Khel, Kurd, Bulbulli, Azar Khel and Sarobi.	Same remarks as for Nárri.

Note by H. A. Anderson, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Bannu, regarding proposed scale to be adopted as a General Guide in granting suspensions in the insecure tracts of the District, para. 10 (III), Annexure C, Revenue Circular No. 31.

Secure tracts.—The whole of the Bannu tahsíl may be classed as secure. Much of the tahsíl is irrigated, the assessment is light. The Wazíri Thal is unirrigated, but the assessment is so exceedingly light that even suspension will scarcely ever be necessary.

Isa Khel tahsíl.—With the exception of Mohár circle, the tahsil may be classed as secure.

The Mohár circle is described at page 186 of Mr. Thorburn's Settlement Report. Its lands are irrigated by hill torrents. The soil is somewhat overworked, and the assessment is not light.

In the event of a failure of either harvest from one-fourth to one-half of the demand may have to be suspended. It is not possible to lay down any scale for subsequent failures, as the circumstances of the various villages in this circle differ much and no uniform scale would apply generally.

Tahsíl Miánwáli—Circle Thal. This tract receives no hill water irrigation. Large portions of it are chiefly used as grazing tracts. The experience of the last ten years shows that suspensions varying from one-third to three-fourths have been necessary, and this is the scale which may be adopted for the future.

Tahsíl Marwat.—The Pakha, Gadwad, Shiga Khatina and Shija circles are insecure.

At page 202 of the Settlement Report the question of suspensions in these circles has been considered. It is laid down :—

1. That failure of the kharíf crop should be at most a cause for suspension and that only in the Pakha circle.
2. That half the annual demand should be suspended on failure of the rabi.
3. That on failure of two rabi crops in succession, the sum suspended in the preceding year should be remitted and another similar suspension granted.

I entirely concur with the proposals contained in Nos. 1 and 2.

As regards the third proposal, however, I have doubts. It seems to me that if suspension of one-half demand is necessary on failure of one rabi, and if it is necessary to remit that suspended one-half on the failure of the succeeding rabi, the proposed suspension of one-half only of the demand of the second rabi would be insufficient. I consider that under the circumstances of a second failure of the rabi harvest, it would, in most villages, be necessary to suspend the whole of the demand for it.

During the four years I have held this district owing to partial and complete failures of harvests I have been compelled to recommend large suspensions. My experience shows that if one-half of the demand is suspended on failure of a rabi it would be impossible to realize one-half of the demand of a succeeding rabi which proved an entire failure. The villages of these circles require liberal suspensions which should be firmly recovered on the occasion of a good harvest. When the harvests are good the returns are enormous and sufficient, subject to exceptions, to make up for the bad seasons. With all deference therefore I hold that it is impossible to lay down any scale except that contained in proposals 1 and 2 quoted above.

H. A. ANDERSON,
Deputy Commissioner.

21*st December* 1893.

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